



GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND

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# Report from Committees and Panels\*

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**GCF/B.09/Inf.04**

6 March 2015

**Meeting of the Board**

24-26 March 2015

Songdo, Republic of Korea

Agenda Item 6

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\* Other Committees and Panels will report orally to the Board during its ninth meeting.

## Report from the Accreditation Panel

### I. Introduction

1. According to decision B.07/02, paragraph (g), the Board established the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) Accreditation Panel (the Panel) as an independent technical panel to advise the Board on matters related to the accreditation of implementing entities (IEs) and intermediaries to the Fund.
2. The Panel is comprised of six expert members with balanced representation between developing and developed countries, and the appropriate range of expertise, nominated by the Accreditation Committee and endorsed by the Board. It is in charge of conducting the accreditation process in accordance with its terms of reference adopted as per decision B.07/02, paragraph (h).
3. In decision B.08/20, the Board endorsed the nomination, by the Accreditation Committee, of five experts to the Panel for one three-year term. In the in-between meeting decision B.BM-2015/01, the Board endorsed the nomination, by the Accreditation Committee, of the sixth expert to the Panel for one three-year term.
4. The Panel, led by a Chair, works in close consultation with the Secretariat on accreditation-related matters. The Chair, accordingly, plans and coordinates the work of the Panel.

### II. Activities during the reporting period

#### 2.1 Organizational activities

5. Members of the Panel are located remotely in relation to the Fund's headquarters, and as such, utilize a variety of methods in order to undertake the work of the Panel. The Panel members are in regular communication with each other in the form of virtual and in-person meetings, as well as via e-mail. Such communications and meetings are usually held jointly with the Secretariat. In addition, the Panel holds its own virtual meetings independently.
6. During the reporting period, the Panel held eight virtual meetings. To finalize its review of accreditation applications and to prepare its recommendations on accreditation for consideration by the Board at its ninth meeting, the Panel met in person at the Fund's headquarters in Songdo, Republic of Korea, from 10 to 13 February 2015. An accreditation workshop, where members of the Global Environment Facility and the Adaptation Fund participated alongside the Panel and the Secretariat, was held prior to the Panel's meeting on 8 and 9 February 2015.
7. The majority of the day-to-day operational work of the Panel, however, is conducted through e-mail and via the Online Accreditation System (OAS), the portal through which applicants submit their applications for accreditation.

#### 2.2 Activities addressing the mandate of the Panel and requests from Board decisions

8. The mandate of the Panel as per decision B.07/02, paragraph (g), is to serve as an independent technical panel to advise the Board on matters related to the accreditation of IEs and intermediaries to the Fund. Furthermore, the Panel is to be in charge of conducting the

accreditation process in accordance with its terms of reference adopted as per decision B.07/02, paragraph (h).

9. Decisions B.08/02, paragraph (d), and B.08/06, paragraph (b), requested the Secretariat to finalize the relevant accreditation application documents and to open a call for submissions of accreditation applications from IEs and intermediaries within four weeks of the eighth meeting of the Board, and to use its best efforts to have applications ready for consideration and possible decision on accreditation by the Board at its ninth meeting. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Panel, finalized: the relevant accreditation application documents, including the application form, which has been operationalized on a web-based platform (OAS); guidance to applicants regarding the accreditation application form; and the checklists used in the Stage I Institutional Assessment and Completeness Check conducted by the Secretariat and the Stage II (Step 1) Accreditation Review conducted by the Panel and external technical experts as required.<sup>1</sup>

10. Following the opening of the call for accreditation applications by the Secretariat on 17 November 2014<sup>2</sup> in accordance with decisions B.08/02, paragraph (d), and B.08/06, paragraph (b), and the receipt of applications for accreditation, the Panel has carried out its mandate in relation to Stage II (Step 1) of the accreditation process in line with its mandate and terms of reference.

11. Guided by the OAS application form and the Stage I and II checklists, the focus of recent Panel activity has been the assessment of entities that have applied for accreditation to the Fund and that have successfully completed Stage I as conducted by the Secretariat. As per decision B.07/02, external technical experts may be engaged by the Accreditation Panel in the in-depth review of individual applications for accreditation. Independent and recognized professionals or specialized consultancy firms will need to demonstrate experience and expertise in relevant areas in order to qualify as external technical experts. External technical experts in the form of a specialized consultancy firm have been contracted by the Fund and have assisted the Panel in its work in Stage II (Step 1). The Panel has also benefited from support received from the Secretariat and external technical experts.

12. The findings of the accreditation review of accreditation applications and the Panel's recommendations on accreditation for the Board's consideration at its ninth meeting are contained in document GCF/B.09/04.

### **III. Future work and final remarks**

#### **3.1 Future work**

13. The accreditation process is an ongoing one, and in this context the Panel is continuing its review of accreditation applications that have completed Stage I, particularly with the aim of having recommendations on accreditation for consideration by the Board at its subsequent tenth meeting.

14. Following the first cycle of the accreditation assessment and review process, the Panel, the Secretariat and the external technical experts are discussing the lessons learned from the accreditation process to date with a view to improving and refining the operationalization of the accreditation framework in future accreditation cycles.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision B.07/02.

<sup>2</sup> Press release, 'Green Climate Fund opens Online Accreditation System for implementing entities and Intermediaries', 17 November 2014, available at [http://www.gcfund.org/fileadmin/00\\_customer/documents/Press/GCF\\_Press\\_Release\\_2014\\_11\\_17\\_accreditation.pdf](http://www.gcfund.org/fileadmin/00_customer/documents/Press/GCF_Press_Release_2014_11_17_accreditation.pdf).

## 3.2 Final remarks

15. The reporting period has been a formative one for the Panel. Across multiple time zones and at a distance, the Panel members have had to learn to work together, and to develop, test and effectively and efficiently implement new working practices in a short period of time.
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