



**GREEN
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Report on the activities of the Information Appeals Panel

Summary

This report provides an update on the activities of the Information Appeals Panel constituted under the Information Disclosure Policy of the GCF (decision B.12/35 and decision B.BM-2018/05). The reporting period is from 1 January 2019 to 31 May 2019.

I. Introduction

1. The Information Appeals Panel (IAP) is constituted under paragraph 28 of the Information Disclosure Policy of the GCF (IDP) (decision B.12/35) and decision B.BM-2018/05 of 6 April 2018. The members of the IAP are the three Heads of the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU), the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) and the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) of the GCF. The IAP entertains and decides appeals filed under the IDP of the GCF with regard to decisions made by the GCF Secretariat on information requests.
2. This report on the activities of the IAP provides an update on the progress made by the IAP from 1 January 2019 to 31 May 2019.

II. IAP Chairperson

3. Paragraph 28 of the IDP states that the “IAP Chair will be selected from amongst, and by, the IAP members”. Accordingly, the IAP met on 4 June 2018 and decided to rotate the Chair of the IAP according to the following schedule:
 - (i) 4 June 2018 - 3 June 2019 – Head of the IRM
 - (ii) 4 June 2019 - 3 June 2020 – Head of the IIU
 - (iii) 4 June 2020 - 3 June 2021 – Head of the IEU
4. The IAP met on 28 May 2019 and confirmed that the rotation of the Chair would occur as agreed to on 4 June 2018, and that the Head of the IRM would step down as Chair on 3 June 2019 and be succeeded by the Head of the IIU from 4 June 2019 until 3 June 2020. The IAP also decided that, regardless of which member holds the position of Chair, the Registrar of the IRM will function as the administrator to the IAP, which position will involve managing the processing of information appeals via the IRM’s case management system which is also being configured to capture and document such appeals (see below).

III. Information appeals

5. The IAP did not receive any appeals during the reporting period.
6. The IAP has continued to follow up with the Secretariat on the implementation of the IAP’s decision on its first appeal dated 19 November 2018. The most recent response from the Secretariat on 13 May 2019 was to inform the IAP that “the ED will deal with this matter at the next Board meeting in his report to the Board on matters concerning the Secretariat and its activities and direction sought as to whether a Board paper is to be presented outlining the options we have suggested in our original submissions to SMT.”
7. It accordingly appears that, to date, and despite numerous requests for an update on the status of implementation, the IAP decision of 19 November 2018 has not been fully implemented by the GCF Secretariat. Non-implementation of an IAP decision that has been approved by the Ethics and Audit Committee of the Board stultifies the implementation, and effectiveness of the Information Disclosure Policy of the GCF. The IAP does not have power to enforce its decisions or to monitor their implementation. This is a matter of concern that the IAP wishes to bring to the attention of the Board.

IV. Case Management System

8. The IRM is in the process of developing a custom-built Case Management System (CMS) which will incorporate IAP appeals. The System Administrator, who is the Registrar of the IRM, will be able to register an IAP appeal in the CMS, and system-generated notifications and reminders will be sent to the IAP Chair. The CMS will accordingly facilitate the processing of information appeals. Design and implementation of the CMS is ongoing and is expected to be completed soon, with user testing commencing in June. The CMS is expected to go live towards the end of July 2019. On the public reporting side, IAP appeal information and decisions will continue to be housed on the GCF website, available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/disclosure/appeals>.
