



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

Meeting of the Board

16 – 19 March 2021

Virtual meeting

Provisional agenda item 22

GCF/B.28/06

23 February 2021

Dates and venues of upcoming meetings of the Board

Summary

This document has been prepared to assist the Board in confirming the dates for the twenty-ninth and thirtieth meetings of the Board and in deciding the venue for the earlier.

I. Introduction

1. This document has been prepared to assist the Board in confirming the dates and deciding the venue for the twenty-ninth meeting of the Board (B.29) and adjust the dates for the thirtieth meeting of the Board (B.30).

II. Considerations

2.1 Dates for the twenty-ninth and thirtieth meetings of the Board

2. By decision B.BM-2021/02, the Board decided and confirmed the dates for the twenty-eighth meeting of the Board as 16–19 March 2021. The Board also decided the dates for B.29 and B.30 as 29 June to 2 July 2021 and 5–8 October 2021, respectively. However, when the draft decision was proposed for approval without a Board meeting, an objection to the proposed decision was received from a Board member, though later lifted. The objection was raised in part on the grounds that formal meeting days should avoid falling on Fridays, which the Board member emphasized are holy days.

3. Paragraph 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board provides that “At each meeting, the Board will confirm the date and duration of the following meeting.” Considering the earlier intervention from the Board member, it is recommended that the Board adjusts the meeting dates for B.29 and B.30 to start on Mondays and end on Thursdays within the same weeks previously agreed. The dates for B.29 and B.30 would therefore be as follows:

- (a) B.29 to take place on 28 June–1 July 2021; and
- (b) B.30 to take place on 4–7 October 2021.

4. These adjusted dates are again captured in annex II among a list of key events in 2021 with publicly available dates and official holidays observed at the United Nations Headquarters for reference.

2.2 Venue for the twenty-ninth meeting of the Board

5. By decision B.BM-2020/07, the Board noted Board decisions B.25/01 and B.25/02 that recognize the exceptional circumstances created by the global COVID-19 pandemic and the impact this is having on the operations of GCF (including the Board, Secretariat, independent units, accredited entities and national designated authorities) as well as on other international entities. The Board also noted that these exceptional circumstances have resulted in strict health guidance that includes, but is not limited to, directives to remain at home, international and domestic travel restrictions, and closed borders. The Board reaffirmed the importance of GCF remaining operational to implement its mandate, given the current exceptional circumstances. By the same decision, the Board further confirmed that unless the circumstances allow for a physical Board meeting, the Board meetings in 2020 will be held as net-meetings. Both decisions B.BM-2020/07 and B.BM-2021/02 request the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the operations of GCF, and to report to the Board appropriately.

6. The Co-Chairs note that the global circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, while having progressed, and particularly with the development and commencement of the administration of vaccines in various jurisdictions, do not yet allow for a resumption of physical Board meetings. Like other countries, travel restrictions imposed by the government due to the pandemic are still in place in the Republic of Korea. These include requiring three negative COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction test results for all international travellers entering Korea before they can move freely in the country, with these tests to be administered (i) prior to

departure (ii) upon arrival in Korea; and (ii) on the thirteenth day of arrival in Korea, after observing a two-week quarantine period. The Korean government also continues to set social distancing levels, adjusted depending on the prevalence of the virus locally, which includes guidance and restrictions on in-person meetings taking place in Korea.

7. On the other hand, administration of COVID-19 vaccines in Korea has begun, with wide availability and application of the vaccines in the country expected by the fall of 2021.

8. Taking all of the above into consideration, the Co-Chairs deem that the current circumstances do not allow for B.29 to be held in person, though recognizing the need to continue to carefully monitor events for a resumption of Board meetings held in person later in 2021. The Co-Chairs therefore recommend that B.29 also be held as a net-meeting. The Co-Chairs also recommend that the Board once again requests the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the operations of GCF, and to report to the Board appropriately. Accordingly, the Board may further evaluate the situation to take a decision for the venues and/or the modality of the remaining meetings of 2021.

III. Recommended action by the Board

9. Following the reiterations above, it is recommended that the Board consider and adopt the draft decision in annex I.

Annex I: Draft decision of the Board

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.28/06 titled “Dates and venues of upcoming meetings of the Board”:

- (a) Confirms that the twenty-ninth meeting of the Board will take place from Monday, 28 June to Thursday, 1 July 2021 and that this be held as a net-meeting;
- (b) Decides that the thirtieth meeting of the Board will take place from Monday, 4 October to Thursday, 7 October 2021;
- (c) Underscores the importance of the full participation and involvement of the entire Board from all constituencies in the Board meetings and pre-Board meeting consultation process as an essential condition for holding an effective and full participatory meeting;
- (d) Requests the Secretariat, where applicable, to take appropriate steps to ensure the full and effective participation of all Board members, alternate members, advisers and active observers in the net-meeting, including testing the technology and providing support to developing countries in particular; and
- (e) Also requests the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the operations of GCF, and to report to the Board appropriately.



Annex II: Key events in 2021 and slots for GCF Board meetings

Dates	Event	Location
JAN		
1	<i>New Year's Day***</i>	
7	<i>Orthodox Christmas*</i>	
FEB		
11 - 12	<i>Lunar New Year (observed in Korea & most of East Asia)</i>	
15	<i>Presidents' Day*</i>	
MAR		
16 - 19	GCF - B.28 proposed dates	
20	<i>Nowruz*</i>	
22 - 26	Adaptation Fund Board – 36 th meeting	Bonn, Germany
APR		
2	<i>Good Friday***</i>	
8	<i>Day of Vesak*</i>	
5 - 11	2021 World Bank & IMF Spring Meetings	Virtual meeting
13	<i>Beginning of Ramadan</i>	
20 - 23	UNFCCC – Technology Executive Committee 22 nd Meeting	Virtual
22	Leaders' Climate Summit	USA
30	<i>Orthodox Good Friday*</i>	
MAY		
12/13	<i>Eid al-Fitr***</i>	
31	<i>Memorial Day**</i>	
JUN		
[31 - 10]	UNFCCC – 52 nd sessions of the subsidiary bodies	Bonn, Germany
11 - 13	G7 – 47 th Leaders' Summit	Cornwall, UK
15 - 17	GEF – 60 th Council meeting	Washington DC, USA
28 - [1]	GCF - B.29 proposed dates	
JUL		
5	<i>Independence Day of the United States of America**</i>	
6 - 9	<i>Available</i>	
19/20	<i>Eid al-Adha***</i>	
6 - 15	High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) 2021	New York, USA
TBA	UNFCCC – Standing Committee on Finance – Financing for nature-based solutions	TBA
TBA	UN Convention on Biological Diversity – COP 15	China
AUG		
SEP		
6	<i>Labor Day**</i>	
12	G20 – 16 th Summit	Italy
14 - 30	UNGA – 76 th Session	New York, USA
15/16	<i>Yom Kippur*</i>	
20 - 22	<i>Chuseok (autumn eve festival observed in Korea)</i>	



OCT		
[30] – 2	UNFCCC Pre-COP26 Summit	Milan, Italy
1	<i>National Day of the People's Republic of China</i>	
4 – 8	Adaptation Futures Conference	New Delhi, India
4 – 7	<i>GCF – B.30 proposed dates</i>	
11 – 15	Adaptation Fund Board – 37 th meeting	Bonn, Germany
15 – 17	2021 World Bank & IMF Annual Meetings	Marrakech, Morocco
30 – 31	G20 Leaders' Summit	Italy
NOV		
4	<i>Diwali*</i>	
1 - 12	UNFCCC – 26 th session of the Conference of Parties	Glasgow, UK
19	<i>Gurpurab*</i>	
25	<i>Thanksgiving Day**</i>	
DEC		
7 – 10	GEF – 61 st Council meeting	Washington DC, USA
25	<i>Christmas day***</i>	

Abbreviations: B.25–B.27 = the twenty-fifth to twenty-seventh meetings of the Board, CIFs = Climate Investment Funds, COP = Conference of the Parties, G20 = Group of Twenty, GEF = Global Environment Facility, IMF = International Monetary Fund, UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNGA = United Nations General Assembly, TBA = to be announced, TBC = to be confirmed, TBD = to be determined.

* *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*

Key 2021 events with dates TBA/TBC

31 May – 10 Jun	UNFCCC – 52 nd sessions of the subsidiary bodies	Bonn, Germany
TBA	CIFs Trust Fund Committee Meetings - I	Washington DC, USA
TBA	CIFs Trust Fund Committee Meetings - II	Washington DC, USA