



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

Meeting of the Board

4 – 7 October 2021

Virtual meeting

Provisional agenda item 19

GCF/B.30/16/Rev.01

7 October 2021

Dates and venues of upcoming meetings of the Board

Summary

This document has been prepared by the Co-Chairs to assist the Board in confirming the dates and deciding on the modality for the thirty-first meeting of the Board, and in deciding on the dates for Board meetings in 2022.

I. Introduction

1. This document has been prepared by the Co-Chairs to assist the Board in confirming the dates and deciding on the modality for the thirty-first meeting of the Board, and in deciding on the dates for Board meetings in 2022.

II. Considerations

2.1 Dates for upcoming meetings of the Board

2. By decision B.17/24, paragraph (c), the Board recommended that the Secretariat propose, at the second Board meeting of each calendar year, the schedule of Board meetings for the following calendar year.

3. By decision B.29/07, the Board confirmed the dates for its thirtieth meeting (B.30) as 4–7 October 2021, but no decision was taken with regard to Board meetings in 2022.

4. In determining the dates of B.31, a proposed decision between Board meetings “Dates and venue of the thirty-first meeting of the Board” was transmitted to the Board as document GCF/BM-2021/19 on 9 September 2021 with a no-objection period of 7 days ending on 16 September 2021. Three objections were received from the Board and communicated by the Secretariat to the Co-Chairs and one Board member submitted a comment. The objections and comments received to the proposed decision were shared with the Board at the end of the no-objection period on 16 September. In line with the Rules of Procedure, the Co-Chairs worked through the objections with the Board members directly and discussed the objections in a consultation session. On 30 September, the responses from the Co-Chairs to the objections which were shared directly with the objecting Board members were also shared with the Board.

5. Based on the calendar of events in 2022 provided in annex 2 and relevant events in December 2021, upcoming GCF Board meetings could be held during the following slots: 13–16 December 2021 for B.31, 28–31 March 2022 for B.32, 27–30 June 2022 for B.33 and 24–27 October 2022 for B.34. An additional option would be to hold during the following: 7–10 February 2022 for B.31, 9–12 May 2022 for B.32, 27–30 June 2022 for B.33 and 24–27 October 2022 for B.34. It is recommended that the Board agrees the dates for upcoming meetings at B.30 as the calendar of international events is rapidly filling up.

6. In the assessment of the Secretariat, the short number of weeks between meetings would pose challenges in the preparation of the meetings and in the development of respective documentation, including for funding and accreditation proposals, and for policy and operational items. Commitment authority projections should also be considered against the indicative dates of future Board meetings. In the case of an in-person meeting, the Secretariat has noted a host country agreement would need to be in place to secure requisite privileges and immunities four weeks in advance of the Board meeting, prioritizing the health and safety of staff and other participants in the Covid-19 context.

7. The current first proposal of dates leaves 9 weeks between B.30 and B.31, 14 weeks between B.31 and B.32, 12 weeks between B.32 and B.33, and 16 weeks between B.33 and B.34. The second proposal of dates leaves 17 weeks between B.30 and B.31, 12 weeks between B.31 and B.32, 6 weeks between B.32 and B.33, and 16 weeks between B.33 and B.34.

2.2 Venue for upcoming meetings of the Board

8. The Board has recognized the unique circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, and how they are continuing to impact the ongoing operations of GCF (including the Board, Secretariat, independent units, accredited entities and national designated authorities). Though some health guidelines and regulations are being gradually relaxed in some countries, limitations remain widely in effect on large gatherings such as in-person business meetings and on international travel. In the light of ongoing restrictions, by decision B.29/07 the Board requested the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of GCF, and to report to the Board appropriately.

9. The Co-Chairs are aiming for B.31 to be held in-person, with the full Board. However, given the health and safety concerns raised by the GCF Secretariat, the Co-Chairs are also exploring the possibility of remote participation to the meeting, so that participants who will not be able to attend physically may still take part.

10. During the small group convened by the Co-Chairs to discuss the matter of dates and venues for B.31, the Board members for Luxembourg and Albania expressed interest in hosting the in-person meeting.

11. The hosting of a Board meeting outside headquarters would require the finalization of a memorandum of understanding for the hosting of a Board meeting at least four weeks before the commencement of the meeting. The host country should also confirm that all requirements for the hosting of a Board meeting are met, including in relation to COVID-19 and social distancing measures.

12. With regards to Board meetings in 2022, the Secretariat received an offer from the Government of Mongolia to host a meeting of the Board in 2022 through a letter signed by the Director General of the Climate Change Department Enkhbat Altangerel and dated 4 October 2021, appended in annex III. The Government of Tajikistan has informally communicated interest in hosting a Board meeting in 2022.

13. Considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Co-Chairs also recommend that the Board once again request the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of the situation 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 future Board meetings.

III. Recommended action by the Board

14. It is recommended that the Board consider and adopt the draft decision in annex I to confirm the dates of 13–16 December 2021 for B.31 as an in-person meeting and to decide on the dates for subsequent Board meetings in 2022.

Annex I: Draft decision of the Board

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.30/16/Rev.01 titled “Dates and venues of upcoming meetings of the Board”:

- (a) Decides that the thirty-first meeting of the Board will take place from [Monday, 13 December to Thursday, 16 December 2021][Monday 7 February to Thursday, 10 February 2022] and that this be held as [a net-meeting] [an in-person meeting held in [Luxembourg][Albania], with the possibility of remote participation for those who will not be able to attend physically];
- (b) Requests the Secretariat to initiate consultations with the host country with the aim of finalizing the memorandum of understanding for the hosting of a Board meeting at least four weeks before the commencement of the thirty-first meeting of the Board.
- (c) Also decides that the thirty-second meeting of the Board will take place from [Monday, 28 March to Thursday, 31 March][Monday, 9 May to Thursday, 12 May 2022];
- (d) Further decides that the thirty-third meeting of the Board will take place from Monday, 27 June to Thursday, 30 June;
- (e) Further decides that the thirty-fourth meeting of the Board will take place from Monday, 24 October to Thursday, 27 October 2022;
- (f) 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; and
- (g) Also requests the Co-Chairs to continue to monitor the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of GCF, and to report to the Board appropriately.



Annex II: Key events in 2022 and slots for GCF Board meetings

Dates	Event	Location
JAN		
3	<i>New Year's Day***</i>	
7	<i>Orthodox Christmas*</i>	
23 – 27	UNLDC-V: Fifth UN Conference on the LDCs	Doha, Qatar
FEB		
1 – 3	<i>Lunar New Year (observed in Korea and most of East Asia)</i>	
7 – 10	OPTION 2 GCF – B.31 proposed dates	
15 – 18	<i>Easter</i>	
21	<i>Presidents' Day*</i>	
28 – 2	UNEA-5	Nairobi, Kenya
MAR		
3 – 5	UNEA-5 – Special Session	Nairobi, Kenya
21	<i>Nowruz*</i>	
21 – 25	Fifty-sixth session of the IPCC and WGIII AR6 Approval Plenary (WGIII-14)	TBD
28-31	OPTION 1 GCF – B.32 proposed dates	
APR		
1	<i>Beginning of Ramadan</i>	
15	<i>Good Friday***</i>	
22 - 24	2022 World Bank and IMF Spring Meetings	Washington DC, USA
25 – 8 May	CBD COP 15 (Part II)	Kunming, China
30	<i>Orthodox Good Friday*</i>	
MAY		
3	<i>Eid al-Fitr***</i>	
6	<i>Day of Vesak</i>	
9-12	OPTION 2 GCF – B.32 proposed dates	
23 – 25	GEF – 62 nd Council meeting	Washington DC, USA
30	<i>Memorial Day**</i>	
JUN		
27 - 30	OPTION 1 AND 2 GCF – B.33 proposed dates	
JUL		
4	<i>Independence Day of the United States of America**</i>	
5 – 15	High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	New York, USA
9 – 13	<i>Eid al-Adha***</i>	
AUG		
SEP		
1	UNCCD COP 15	TBC
13 – 27	UNGA – seventy-seventh session	New York, USA
4 – 5	<i>Yom Kippur*</i>	
9 – 12	<i>Chuseok (autumn harvest festival observed in Korea)</i>	
OCT		
1	<i>National Day of the People's Republic of China</i>	
14 – 16	2022 World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings	Marrakech, Morocco



24-27	OPTION 1 AND 2 GCF - B.34 proposed dates	
24	<i>Diwali*</i>	
NOV		
1	UNFCCC COP 27 (pending final confirmation)	Egypt
8	<i>Gurpurab*</i>	
24	<i>Thanksgiving Day**</i>	
DEC		
6 - 8	GEF - 63 rd Council meeting	Washington DC, USA
25	<i>Christmas day***</i>	

Events to be confirmed:

Potential date	Event	Location
APR	Adaptation Fund Board - 38 th meeting	Bonn, Germany
JUN	UNFCCC - fifty-third sessions of the subsidiary bodies	Bonn, Germany
JUN	CIFs Trust Fund Committee Meetings	Washington DC, USA
JUL	UNFCCC - Standing Committee on Finance	TBC
NOV	Adaptation Fund Board - 39 th meeting	Bonn, Germany

Abbreviations: B.31-B.34 = the thirty-first to thirty-fourth meetings of the Board, CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity, CIFs = Climate Investment Funds, COP = Conference of the Parties, GEF = Global Environment Facility, IMF = International Monetary Fund, IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, LDCs = Least Developed Countries, UNCCD = United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, UNEA = United Nations Environment Assembly, UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNGA = United Nations General Assembly, TBC = to be confirmed.

** United Nations floating holidays*

*** Official holidays observed at the United Nations Headquarters that are national holidays*

**** Official holidays observed at the United Nations Headquarters that are not national holidays*

Annex III: Letter from Mongolia

The letter from Mongolia is contained below.



**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
TOURISM OF MONGOLIA**

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Date 4th October 2021
Ref. 11/4658

TO: Mr. Yannick Glemarec, Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia as the National Designated Authority is presenting compliments to the Green Climate Fund, noting the successful cooperation with the Fund since 2014.

In alignment with the Cooperation Agreement signed in 2019 between the Government of Mongolia and the GCF, Mongolia has been prioritizing climate actions in its development pathway. In partnership with international and direct access entities, Mongolia is successfully implementing several Green Climate Fund projects with tangible outcomes in Mongolia. We hope to have the opportunity to share our experiences with GCF Board members and stakeholders through potential project site visits in 2022.

The Government of Mongolia is expressing its interest to host one of the 2022 GCF Board meetings in Mongolia. Furthermore, I look forward to meeting you and GCF colleagues at the upcoming COP 26 meeting to discuss strengthening our continued partnership.

We would appreciate your kind consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

ENKHBAT Altangerel,
DIRECTOR-GENERAL,
CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT