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Meeting of the Board
17 – 20 October 2022
Incheon, Republic of Korea
Provisional agenda item 7

GCF/B.34/23

17 October 2022

Appointment of members of the independent Technical Advisory Panel

Summary

This document informs on the process of selection of two experts as members of the independent Technical Advisory Panel, following the resignation of two members, and presents the Investment Committee's nomination of candidates for Board endorsement.

I. Introduction

1. In its decision B.09/10, the Board approved the terms of reference of the independent Technical Advisory Panel (the Panel), with six panel members serving three-year terms with the possibility of re-appointment. Six members were selected in the 10th and 12th Meeting at the nomination from the Investment Committee, with the support of the Secretariat. These members were reappointed through B.BM/2018-13 and B.BM/2018-17 for an additional two years. The three members selected at B.10 were extended again through decision B.25/09 for a further 1.5 years, and similarly, the three remaining members were also extended through decision B.BM-2021/04 for 10 months. Through B.BM-2022/01, five members of the six initially appointed members of the Panel were extended for another year, making their contract terms aligned with the ending date of February 2023. The contract of one member from the group appointed at B.10 was not extended because this member resigned from the Panel in April 2021.

2. The Board decided through decision B.25/09 to expand the Panel to ten members in response to the anticipated increase in funding proposals, as detailed in the GCF-1 Strategic Plan, and requested the Secretariat to launch a call for experts immediately in order to identify suitable candidates to join the Panel as members. The Board requested the Investment Committee to nominate additional experts by the twenty-sixth meeting of the Board, with due consideration given to the geographic and specialty coverage in accordance with the updated terms of reference of the independent Technical Advisory Panel (decision B.BM-2018/09). Through decision B.BM-2020/15, the Board appointed four additional members to the Panel for one term of 3 years. Among these new members, one member resigned from the Panel in February 2022. The resignation of two members have resulted in two vacant positions in the Panel to reach the full size of 10 members.

II. Recruitment process

3. The recruitment and selection process was launched in July 2021 after the Investment Committee cleared the Terms of Reference (TOR) with a goal to nominate additional Panel members by the Investment Committee for appointment by the Board as soon as possible.

4. The call for experts and the Panel's terms of reference were published on the Fund's website on 28 September 2021, with an open invitation to all potential candidates to submit their applications distributed through the GCF website. Applicants were asked to provide a CV and cover letter expressing their interest. In addition, the Secretariat reached out to interested and available candidates from the last pool and encouraged them to apply for the vacancies.

5. 93 applications were received in total. Applications were evaluated based on the required qualifications and key fields of competencies as defined in the updated terms of reference, included in annex II.

6. The Investment Committee also requested the Secretariat to screen candidates on the basis of a) breadth of their technical experience relevant to GCF's result areas; b) experience in project financing, development and implementation in developing countries; c) working knowledge of the project management cycle, including origination, implementation, assessment and oversight; d) familiarity with UNFCCC guidance and processes, IPCC guidance and other relevant climate change processes; e) technical expertise and experience in specific sectors including: private sector finance, natural resource management, land use/forestry/REDD+ and/or experience of Small Island Developing States. Fourteen candidates passed through initial screening by the Secretariat. The Secretariat shared the longlist with the Investment Committee, along with their brief profiles and CVs. Seven candidates were shortlisted by the Committee in July 2022 and contacted for interviews.

7. The interview panel (composed of two Committee members, one each from both developed and developing country constituencies, and one Secretariat representative) interviewed seven shortlisted candidates in August 2022 and completed the selection process. The panel identified the two strongest candidates that would fill the existing gaps in expertise in iTAP: private sector finance and forestry.
8. Upon deliberation, the Investment Committee decided to nominate the two top scoring candidates for the iTAP membership at the virtual meeting held on 16 September 2022.
9. In the selection process, the Investment Committee and the Secretariat took into account geographic and technical expertise coverage and gender balance. The Committee further notes that, with the endorsement of the nominated candidate, the composition of the independent Technical Advisory Panel would feature a good geographical balance, with a diverse range of backgrounds and technical knowledge.
10. Should the need for additional technical knowledge arise, the Committee recognized the Panel's ability to draw upon the GCF's roster of experts as needed. The Panel may, on a case-by-case basis, call additional experts if the need for specialized knowledge arises, as deemed necessary and in consultation with the Secretariat, per the Panel's Terms of Reference approved in decision B.09/10 and subsequent decisions.
11. In the Investment Committee meeting held on 16 October 2022, the Committee reviewed one candidate who noted to the Secretariat a new affiliation with a potential entity in the accreditation pipeline on 7 October 2022. Upon consideration and based on consultation with both Office of the General Counsel and the Independent Integrity Unit, the Committee decided not to proceed with this candidate due to a perceived or potential conflict of interest.

III. Recommendation

12. The Committee hereby recommends the endorsement of the one nominated candidate.

Annex I: Draft decision of the Board

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.34/23 titled “Appointment of members of the independent Technical Advisory Panel”:

- (a) *Recalling* the updated terms of reference of the independent Technical Advisory Panel as noted in Board decision B.BM-2018/09;
- (b) *Endorses* the nomination by the Investment Committee of the following expert of the independent Technical Advisory Panel (the Panel) for one three-year term starting on 1 January 2023:
 - (i) Carmenza Robledo (Female, Colombia)

Annex II: Note from Investment Committee Chairperson to the Co-Chairs

I, Simon Stumpf, as chair of the Investment Committee, declare that the Investment Committee has reviewed and cleared the present document, and endorses the decision proposed.
