

Guidelines on the participation and conduct of Advisers in Board meetings

This document is as adopted by the Board and contained in annex I to decision B.04/11.



I. Designation and attendance of advisers at Board meetings

1. Paragraph 2 (b) of the Rules of Procedure defines an “Adviser” as follows:

“2 (b) “Adviser” means an expert providing advice to a member and/or alternate member during or in connection with Board meetings;”

Moreover, paragraphs 25 and 28 of the Rules of Procedure state that:

“25. In addition to Board members and alternate members, meetings of the Board, other than executive sessions, will be open to attendance by designated advisers of Board members and alternate members, Secretariat staff, representatives of the Trustee, active observers and other observers who have been accredited for participation in the meeting.”

“28. In exceptional circumstances, the Board may conduct its business in closed executive session where, unless decided otherwise by the Board, only Board members and alternate members, the Executive Director, advisers, and such other persons authorized or requested by the Board to attend, may be present.”

2. Seating for advisers will be provided behind the alternate member or, in the case of no attendance by the alternate member, behind the Board member.
3. One adviser per Board and alternate member will be allowed in the Board meeting room to observe Board proceedings at any one time.

II. Representation of advisers in committees, sub-committees, panels and working groups

4. Paragraphs 1 and 30-32 of the Rules of Procedure define the composition of Board committees, sub-committees, panels and working groups:

“1. These rules of procedure shall apply to the conduct of business of the Board of the Green Climate Fund and mutatis mutandis, and except as decided otherwise by the Board, to committees and subcommittees, panels and working groups established by the Board.”

“30. The Board may establish such committees from among its members and/or alternate members, and such panels as may be required for the conduct of its business.

31. Committees shall assist the Board in its decision-making, and shall exercise any delegated authority under the overall authority and direction of the Board, which may revoke such delegated authority under the same procedures in place for the original delegation of authority. Except for standing committees, all committees established ad hoc should have a clearly defined timeline and end date, related to the execution of its functions and should be subject to review at regular intervals.

32. The Board may establish, on permanent or temporary basis, technical and expert panels to assist it in the performance of its functions. Technical or expert panels may include but need not be limited to Board members and alternate members. They generally shall have advisory functions only.”

5. In accordance with these provisions, advisers may be appointed to technical and expert panels established by the Board provided that they are eminent specialists in a given field, but may not form part of Board committees and sub-committees. The Rules of Procedure do not contain any provision on the composition of working groups. Thus, the Board may decide, if circumstances so warrant, to include advisers in working groups.

III. Conduct of advisers

6. Board members and alternate members are accountable for the conduct of their respective adviser/s during, and in connection with, Board meetings.
7. The Rules of Procedure, in paragraphs 18 and 21, only refer to Board members and alternate members in relation to notification of meeting and transmittal of documents:
 - “18. The Secretariat will notify Board members, alternate members and accredited observer organizations and active observers of the dates and venue of the meetings and circulate a provisional agenda for any meeting at least 30 calendar days before the first day of the meeting. A notification will also be posted on the Fund’s website. In the case of an extraordinary meeting, the Co-Chairs, acting jointly, shall determine the date by which notification to the Board members has to be made, taking into account the urgency of the matter.”
 - “21. The Secretariat will transmit to Board members and alternate members the documentation relating to items on the provisional agenda at least 21 calendar days before the first day of the meeting scheduled, except in case of extraordinary meetings and in exceptional circumstances where, in the view of the Co-Chairs, a shorter period for the transmission of documentation is warranted. In any such cases, the Co-Chairs, acting jointly, shall determine the date by which the said documentation has to be transmitted.”
8. Each Board member or alternate member will decide whether to provide their adviser/s access to documents or information, except for documents that are confidential and expressly restricted to Board members and alternate members.



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