



GEF/C.68/02  
December 10, 2024

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68<sup>th</sup> GEF Council Meeting  
December 16--20, 2024  
Virtual Meeting

**Agenda Item 02**

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Agenda Item 01. Opening of the Meeting**

1. The meeting will be opened by Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO/Chairperson of the Facility.
2. Council will recall that Mr. Dawda Badgie, Council member for Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia, is the Elected Chairperson for the calendar year 2024 by decision 29/2023 adopted on December 19, 2023.

**Agenda Item 02. Adoption of the Agenda**

3. The Provisional Agenda has been issued as document GEF/C.68/01, for consideration by the Council.
4. Additional items to be included in the agenda can be requested at this moment and will be brought up under Agenda Item 16: Other Business.
5. The Council is invited to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

**Agenda Item 03. The GEF Monitoring Report 2024**

6. Document GEF/C.68/03, The GEF Monitoring Report 2024, presents for Council consideration a report that tracks the results of GEF-financed initiatives on global environmental benefits and assesses the effectiveness and efficiency of the ongoing portfolio. In addition, the report outlines the size and distribution of this portfolio. It offers insights into the advancements made by projects under implementation through the GEF Trust Fund in the last year.
7. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered GEF/C.68/03, the GEF Monitoring Report 2024, welcomes the report and continued implementation of the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework and GEF Risk Appetite.*

**Agenda Item 04. Work Program for GEF Trust Fund**

8. Document GEF/C.68/04/Rev.01, *Work Program for GEF Trust Fund*, outlines important aspects of the proposed Work Program, including programming trends in GEF resources relative to focal area strategies and objectives, distribution by regions and GEF Agencies. It also includes status on the use of GEF-8 resources.
9. This Work Program requests a total of \$508.4 million from the GEF trust fund and \$46.2 million in associated Agency fees for a total Work Program of \$564.3 million. It contains an indicative \$4.15 billion in co-financing,

with each dollar provided by the GEF being matched by \$8.17 in co-financing provided by other sources.

10. **Draft decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.68/04/Rev.01, Work Program for GEF Trust Fund, approves the Work Program comprising 31 projects and programs, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by January 17, 2025.*

*Total GEF resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$564.3 million, including GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs): [See Annex A]*

*With respect to the PIFs and PFDs approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs and PFDs (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.*

*With respect to any PIF approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.*

**Agenda Item 05. Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process**

11. Document GEF/C.68/05, *Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process*, summarizes the outcome of work by the Council Working Group on Streamlining and outlines next steps towards identifying and considering further options to streamline the GEF project cycle.
12. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.68/05, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streaming Process, decides to:*
  - i. *Endorse the proposals in Table 1 and Implementation Plan in Section 3;*
  - ii. *Request the Secretariat to draft the required policy amendments, circulate to OFPs and Agencies for consultation; then to Council for any required decisions intersessionally;*

- iii. *Endorse further analysis and elaboration of options for consideration as part of the preparation for GEF-9 negotiations.*

**Agenda Item 06. Report of the Chairperson of the STAP**

- 13. The Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) will be invited to make a statement to the Council on the work of the Panel.

**Agenda Item 07. Semi-Annual Evaluation Report of the IEO: December 2024**

- 14. The Director of the IEO will be invited to present Document GEF/E/C.68/Inf.01, *Semi-Annual Evaluation Report of the IEO: December 2024*, which provides an update on ongoing evaluations and knowledge management activities of the Independent Evaluation Office during the reporting period from June 2024 to November 2024.

**Agenda Item 08. Evaluation of GEF Interventions in the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area GEF-5 to GEF-8 and Management Response**

- 15. Document GEF/E/C.68/01, *Evaluation of GEF Interventions in the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area GEF-5 to GEF-8* presents a comprehensive evaluation of the relevance, performance, and effectiveness of GEF support in the chemicals and waste focal area, through an in-depth project analysis.
- 16. Document GEF/C.68/07, *Management Response to the Evaluation of GEF Interventions in the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area GEF-5 to GEF-8*, will be presented by the Secretariat indicating actions to be taken by the Secretariat to make effective those recommendations.
- 17. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.68/01 Evaluation of GEF Interventions in the Chemicals and Waste Focal Area GEF-5 to GEF-8, and GEF/C.68/07, the Management Response, takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.*

**Agenda Item 09. Evaluation of GEF Programs in Pacific Small Island Developing States and Management Response**

- 18. Document GEF/E/C.68/02, *Evaluation of GEF Programs in Pacific Small Island Developing States* presents an in-depth evaluation of the GEF's priorities in addressing environmental efforts in the Pacific SIDS countries, their vulnerabilities, and the expanding range of programs.

19. Document GEF/C.68/06, *Management Response to the Evaluation of GEF Programs in Pacific Small Island Developing States*, will be presented by the Secretariat indicating actions to be taken by the Secretariat to make effective those recommendations.
20. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.68/02 Evaluation of GEF Programs in Pacific Small Island Developing States, and GEF/C.68/06, the Management Response, takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.*

**Agenda Item 10. Evaluation of Components of the GEF's Results Based Management System and Management Response**

21. Document GEF/E/C.68/03, *Evaluation of Components of the GEF's Results Based Management System* presents the assessment of the performance of key elements of the GEF RBM system during GEF-8, including the GEF Portal, portfolio efficiency, core indicators system, self-evaluations, and the reporting of project results and process indicators. It includes a special focus on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in fragile, conflict-affected, and violent (FCV).
22. Document GEF/C.68/08, *Management Response to the Evaluation of Evaluation of Components of the GEF's Results Based Management System*, will be presented by the Secretariat indicating actions to be taken by the Secretariat to make effective those recommendations.
23. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.68/03 Evaluation of Components of the GEF's Results Based Management System, and GEF/C.68/08, the Management Response, takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.*

**Agenda Item 11. Relations with Conventions & Other International Institutions**

24. Document GEF/C.68/09, *Relations with Conventions & Other International Institutions*, provides the Council with an update on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in support of the following multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs): the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol), and the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable

use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). Covering the period from April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024, the document further provides information on relations between the GEF Secretariat and other international conventions, institutions, and fora.

25. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.68/09, Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions, welcomes the report and requests the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.*

**Agenda Item 12. Strength of the Partnership: Coverage by Agencies**

26. *Document GEF/C.68/10, Strength of the Partnership: Coverage by Agencies presents an updated assessment of the partnership across the five dimensions: geographic coverage, thematic coverage, efficiency, effectiveness, and engagement.*

27. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document, GEF/C.68/10, "Strength of the Partnership: Coverage by Agencies," takes notes of the document and decides to:*

*a. Request the Secretariat to develop options to add a limited number of additional agencies to the partnership, to enhance regional expertise for LDCs and SIDS, and to strengthen engagement with CSOs, NGOs and the private sector, for consideration by the Council at its 69th meeting; and,*

*b. Request the Secretariat to develop additional options noted in the document, such as set-asides for agency groups with greater engagement needs, the development of incentive mechanisms, and a targeted outreach program in alignment with the Country Engagement Strategy, for consideration by Council at a future meeting.*

**Agenda Item 13. GEF-8 MIDTERM REVIEW ON PERFORMANCE OF FULL FLEXIBILITY**

28. *Document GEF/C.68/11, GEF-8 Midterm review on Performance of Full Flexibility, presents an assessment the portfolio performance under full flexibility and the identification of potential measures if portfolio-level focal area financing is not progressing to meet the agreed targets.*

29. **Draft Decision:** *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.68/11, GEF-8 Midterm Review on Performance of Full Flexibility, welcomes the report and requests the GEF Secretariat to continue monitoring the use of full flexibility in GEF-8.*

**Agenda Item 14. Report of the Selection and Review Committee**

30. The Selection and Review Committee will present its report to the Council for consideration and appropriate decision in Executive Session.
31. Draft decision: To be confirmed during Council.

**Agenda Item 15. Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund**

32. Document GEF/C.68/13, Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, proposes the initiation process of the ninth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.
33. **Draft decision:** *The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.68/13, Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, requests the Trustee, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to initiate the discussions on the ninth replenishment of resources of the GEF Trust Fund.*

**Agenda Item 16. Other Business**

34. Members and the Chairs may raise any other business under this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 17. Joint Summary of the Co-Chairs**

35. The CEO/Chairperson will present a summary of the decisions approved during the meeting.