



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

Meeting of the Board
13 – 16 March 2023
Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea
Provisional agenda item 6

GCF/B.35/Inf.16/Rev.01

7 March 2023

Report on the activities of the Co-Chairs

Summary

This document contains a report on the activities of the 2022 and 2023 Co-Chairs from mid-October 2022 to February 2023. The report contains two parts:

- (a) Part A: Report of the 2022 Co-Chairs (mid-October to end of January 2023); and
- (b) Part B: Report of the 2023 Co-Chairs (end of January to February 2023).

Part A: Report on the activities of the 2022 Co-Chairs

I. Introduction

1. This section presents a report on the activities of the 2022 Co-Chairs from mid-October 2022 to January 2023.

II. Preparations for the thirty-fifth meeting of the Board

2. Paragraph 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board provides that the Secretariat will, with the approval of the Co-Chairs, prepare and distribute the provisional agenda for each meeting. The 2022 Co-Chairs and their advisers coordinated with the Secretariat and the independent units to prepare a draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth meeting of the Board (B.35) to kick-start preparations for the meeting.

3. Following consultation between the Secretariat and the Co-Chairs, the draft provisional agenda for B.35 was transmitted to the Board as document GCF/B.35/01/Drf.01 on 26 January 2023.

III. Decisions proposed without a Board meeting

4. The Co-Chairs approved the Secretariat's transmission of three decisions proposed for approval without a Board meeting. These were:

- (a) "Recommendation on waiver before employment by the Secretariat," transmitted to the Board on a limited distribution basis on 15 December 2022 in document GCF/BM-2022/10 and approved on 22 December 2022 as decision B.BM-2022/11;
- (b) "Status of approved funding proposals: extension of deadline in respect of FP185 (Climate Change: The New Evolutionary Challenge for the Galapagos)", transmitted to the Board on 19 December 2022 in document GCF/BM-2022/11 and approved on 3 January 2023 as decision B.BM-2022/12; and
- (c) "Election of Co-Chairs of the Board for 2023", transmitted to the Board on 10 January 2023 in document GCF/BM-2023/01;
 - (i) On 16 January 2023, the Co-Chairs received an objection to the proposed decision from the members on behalf of the African Board and Alternate Members;
 - (ii) In accordance with paragraph 43 of the Rules of Procedure, the Co-Chairs worked through the objection directly with the objecting Board members. On 18 January the Co-Chairs responded to the African Board and Alternate Members' requests for assurances that the issues raised in their objection would be addressed by the Board. Between 18 and 25 January, informal discussions were held with the members and a resolution to the matters was agreed upon;
 - (iii) On 25 January the Co-Chairs received a letter from the African members lifting the objection on the basis of the matter being included on the provisional agenda for B.35;
 - (iv) The proposed decision on the election of Co-Chairs of the Board for 2023 was therefore approved on 26 January 2023 as decision B.BM-2023/01; and
 - (v) The "Report of the Co-Chairs in relation to objections received for a decision without a Board meeting" was distributed to the Board on 26 January 2023.

IV. Matters related to the second replenishment of GCF and the updated Strategic Plan

5. The Co-Chairs, in accordance with decision B.33/11, in consultation with the Board and with the support of the Secretariat, appointed Mahmoud Mohieldin as Facilitator for the GCF second replenishment process. Mr. Mohieldin was confirmed as the Facilitator on 22 December 2022. Mr. Mohieldin will support the replenishment process and report to the Board on meeting outcomes. An economist with more than 30 years of experience in international finance and development, Mr. Mohieldin is the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP 27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. He is an Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund and has been the United Nations Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda since February 2020.

6. In accordance with Board decision B.34/09, the Co-Chairs ensured that a revised USP was circulated to the Board in December 2022 for a comment period including on matters related to the further developed mid-term programming goals and strategic objectives, based on inputs from B.34/RM.1; and full text on operational goals and institutional priorities. Co-Chairs working on the mandate from Board Decision B.23/03 to ensure open, inclusive and transparent Board consultations decided that organise a workshop on the USP to provide additional opportunities for the Board to engage on the draft USP. On 19 January an informal technical session was held with the Secretariat on matters related to the Consultation Drf.01 of the update to the GCF Strategic Plan: 2024–2027 (USP-2) in accordance with decision B.34/09, annex VI.

V. Seventh annual meeting between GCF and the thematic bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

7. The Board, by decision B.13/11, decided to hold an annual meeting, in accordance with paragraph 70 of the Governing Instrument for the GCF, in order to enhance cooperation and coherence of engagement between GCF and the UNFCCC thematic bodies. By the same decision the Board decided that the meeting will be chaired by the Co-Chairs of the GCF Board and organized by the Secretariat on an annual basis to be held in conjunction with the COP.

8. The seventh annual meeting between GCF and the UNFCCC thematic bodies took place on 11 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh. A summary of the meeting is presented in annex I.

Part B: Report on the activities of the 2023 Co-Chairs

VI. Introduction

9. This section presents a report on the activities of the 2023 Co-Chairs from the end of January to February 2023.

VII. Preparations for the thirty-fifth meeting of the Board

10. Following the circulation of the first draft provisional agenda in document GCF/B.35/01/Drf.01, the 2023 Co-Chairs reviewed readiness of each item on the draft provisional agenda, and decided to issue a revised draft provisional agenda as document GCF/B.35/01/Drf.02 on 20 February 2023.

VIII. Engagement with the Secretariat

11. The 2023 Co-Chairs and their teams held weekly conference calls with the Secretariat to make preparations for B.35. The engagement covered the initial draft of the B.35 provisional agenda, on the basis of which the Secretariat and independent units began to prepare documents for B.35.
12. In order to advance consultations on the first draft of USP-2 (dated 16 December 2022) in preparation for B.35, the Co-Chairs approved the organization of a workshop in Paris, France on 1 March 2023. The Co-Chairs requested the Secretariat to make the necessary logistical arrangements in support of the workshop.

IX. Decisions proposed without a Board meeting

13. The Co-Chairs approved the Secretariat's transmission of one decision proposed for approval without a Board meeting. This was:
 - (a) "Accreditation of observer organizations": the proposed decision was transmitted to the Board on a limited distribution basis as document GCF/BM-2023/02 on 6 February 2023 with a no-objection period of 21 days ending on 27 February 2023, during which no objections were received. The decision was thus deemed approved as decision B.BM-2023/02, circulated to the board on 28 February 2023 and published on the GCF website.
14. The details on decisions proposed and approved between B.34 and b.35 are presented in document GCF/B.35/Inf.01/Rev.01 titled "Board decisions proposed between the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth meetings of the Board". in accordance with paragraph 44 of the Rules of Procedure decisions approved between meetings will be recorded in the report of the next meeting.

Annex I: Report of the seventh annual meeting to enhance cooperation and coherence of engagement between the Green Climate Fund and the thematic bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

I. Mandate

1. By decision B.13/11, in accordance with paragraph 70 of the Governing Instrument for the GCF, the Board decided to organize an annual meeting to enhance cooperation and coherence of engagement between GCF and the thematic bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

II. Objective of the seventh meeting

2. The primary objective of the seventh annual meeting was to discuss how to further enhance GCF support to developing countries in meeting the goals of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement with a focus on the implementation of their nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs) and long-term strategies (LTS). In this regard, the participants took stock of the implementation of the updated Strategic Plan of the GCF for 2020–2023, as it enters its final year, and discussed possibilities to enhance cooperation between GCF and the thematic bodies in the context of the ongoing review and update of the GCF Strategic Plan for 2024–2027.

III. Highlights and key outcomes

3. The seventh annual meeting was held on 11 November 2022 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. The meeting was chaired by the 2022 Co-Chairs of the GCF Board and supported by the Secretary to the Board and Head of the Office of Governance Affairs. It was attended by the Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and members of the following bodies: Adaptation Committee (AC), Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), Technology Executive Committee (TEC), Advisory Board of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN AB), Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB), and the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts (ExCom). The full list of participants is contained in table 2 below.

4. The 2022 Co-Chair of the GCF Board opened the meeting, welcoming the representatives of the thematic bodies to the annual dialogue and providing a brief update on the implementation of the updated Strategic Plan for 2020–2023 and the Board workplan. Subsequently, the GCF Secretariat presented a summary of GCF's support for low-emission and climate-resilient development in developing countries.

5. During the moderated discussion, the participants shared their views on boosting support for implementation of national climate strategies and plans relevant to the mandates of the respective thematic bodies and discussed possibilities to enhance cooperation between the GCF and the thematic bodies in the context of the ongoing review and update of the GCF Strategic Plan for 2024–2027. In addition, the participants presented priorities in the workplans of their respective bodies for the year ahead that should inform the work of GCF and enhance cooperation and coherence of engagement. Table 1 below summarizes the highlights of

interventions delivered by the participants in response to the guiding questions¹ proposed before the meeting.

Table 1: Areas of potential collaboration between GCF and the thematic bodies

Thematic body	Areas of potential collaboration
AC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCF to continue to engage in the initiatives led by the Committee, including regular dialogues with other constituted bodies on adaptation, as well as a new information series on global adaptation, which aims to identify gaps in adaptation action and informing future investment to enhance support for the implementation of NAPs. GCF to consider engaging in a more coherent and strategic way in NAP development and implementation, providing support and technical advice to developing countries.
ExCom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building on the elements relevant to loss and damage within the Strategic Plan for 2020–2023, the ExCom Co-Chair suggested GCF to consider ways to enhance its support in the next Strategic Plan. GCF to continue taking part in the ExCom meetings to promote regular information exchanges and collaboration, including with regard to Parties’ consultations on funding arrangements.
LEG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In line with the planned LEG activities in 2023, which will focus on supporting NAP formulation and implementation, GCF to continue contributing to the NAP Expo, relevant workshops, and providing relevant expertise in the preparation of the technical guidelines on the implementation of NAPs.
PCCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCF to continue participating in the PCCB consultative processes, including the informal coordination group. In addition, GCF was invited to provide input to the new PCCB toolkit, which will support identifying best practices and strategies for capacity-building, including GCF direct access modalities.
TEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEC invited GCF to follow regular publication of TEC knowledge products and engage in the TEC meetings to have a targeted discussion on, among others, technology incubators and accelerators. TEC further encouraged GCF to continue to consider in its activities, as relevant, the Technology Needs Assessments, engagement with National Designated Entities, and collaboration with the CTCN Office in the Republic of Korea.
CTCN AB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In view of strengthening synergies with CTCN priorities for 2023, GCF was asked to continue to support developing countries in accelerating the uptake of technologies; advance incubator and accelerator programmes; support market creation for upstream innovation, and provide developing countries with capacity-building assistance related to technology.

6. In conclusion, the 2022 Co-Chair of the GCF Board shared with the participants an overview of priorities for 2023, specifically regarding the portfolio targets to be reached by the

¹ 1) How could GCF and constituted bodies strengthen cooperation and synergies to enhance support to developing countries in NDC/NAP/LTS implementation and investment planning to achieve paradigm shift and systemic responses?

2) What are the priorities of the constituted bodies in their areas of expertise and under their workplans that should inform the work of GCF and enhance cooperation and coherence of engagement?

end of the first replenishment period (GCF-1), the update on the development of the Strategic Plan for 2024–2027, and the GCF-2 replenishment process.

Table 2: List of participants

Affiliation	Name
AC	Ms. Shella Biallas (Co-Chair)
ExCom	Mr. Frode Neergaard (Co-Chair)
LEG	Mr. Kenel Delusca (Chair)
PCCB	Ms. Yongxiang Zhang (Co-Chair)
TEC	Mr. Ambrosio Yobanolo del Real (Chair), Mr. Stig Svenningsen (Vice-Chair)
CTCN AB	Mr. Omedi Moses Jura (Chair), Mr. Erwin Rose (Vice-Chair)
GCF	Mr. Jean-Christophe Donnellier (Co-Chair), Mr. Tlou Emmanuel Ramaru (Co-Chair) Ms. Ursula Fuentes (Board member), Ms. Victoria Gunderson (Board member) Mr. Pa Ousman Jarju (Secretary to the Board and Head of Governance Affairs)