

Policy on Prohibited Practices

This document is as adopted by the Board and contained in annex XIV to decision B.22/19, paragraph (a), and amended by the Board in decision B.23/08, paragraphs (b)-(d) to include the definition of “Active Observers” and amend the definition of “Covered Individual”.



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

I. Introduction

1. The objective of the Green Climate Fund (GCF or Fund) is to contribute to the achievement of the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In the context of sustainable development, the GCF will promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change, considering the needs of those developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
2. The GCF maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward Prohibited Practices and is strongly committed to preventing and combating Prohibited Practices. The GCF expects individuals and entities involved in Fund-related Activities (as defined below) to observe the highest standards of integrity, to refrain from directly or indirectly, condoning, encouraging, participating in or engaging in Prohibited Practices and to take measures, where and when appropriate, to prevent and combat Prohibited Practices regarding all Fund-related Activities.
3. The GCF shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that all resources and assets entrusted to it are managed with the highest levels of integrity, and to the fullest extent possible, free from prohibited practices.
4. The GCF recognizes established international practices and policies with respect to the prohibition of Prohibited Practices, and particularly the principles in the United Nations' Convention against Corruption and other instruments related thereto.

II. Purpose

5. The purpose of this Policy on Prohibited Practices (Policy) is to establish the specific conduct and activities which are prohibited by the GCF, the obligations of Covered Individuals and Counterparties to uphold the highest standards of integrity and to refrain from Prohibited Practices, and the actions which the GCF may take when prohibited practices are alleged to have occurred in Fund-related Activities.

III. Definitions

6. For the purposes of this Policy the following terms shall have the meaning set out below:
 - (a) **"Active Observers"** has the meaning given to that term in the Rules of Procedure of the Board;
 - (b) **"AML/CFT Policy"** means the GCF's Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy adopted by the Board by decision B.18/10 and set out in Annex XIV thereto;
 - (c) **"Board"** means Board of the Green Climate Fund;
 - (d) **"Board Appointed Official"** means the Executive Director, the Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit, the Head of the Independent Integrity Unit and the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism, who are appointed by the Board;
 - (e) **"Conflict of interest"** means any situation in which a party or any of its staff involved in the relevant decision-making process has interests that could, or could be perceived to, improperly influence the performance of official duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

- (f) **“Counterparty”** means any party that contributes to, executes, implements, bids for, or in any way participates in, Fund-related Activities, including receiving a grant, loan or other form of financing or support from the Fund. Counterparties include a contributor, accredited entity, direct access entity, executing entity, delivery partner, fiscal agent, financial intermediary, vendor and (for the purpose of this policy) any entity within, or to which the Secretariat directly disburses GCF resources, including for the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme;
- (g) **“Covered Individual”** means GCF Personnel, Co-Chairs of the Board, Board and Alternate Members, their Advisers, Board-Appointed Officials, External Members and Active Observers;
- (h) **“Executing Entity”** means any entity, through which GCF funds are channelled or used for the purposes of a Fund-related Activity or part thereof, and/or any entity that executes, carries out or implements a Fund-related Activity, or any part thereof;
- (i) **“External Member”** means an expert appointed by the Board, or procured, selected and contracted by the Secretariat on behalf of the Fund and serving as an external member on a panel or group established by the Board;
- (j) **“Fund-related Activity”** means any activity which is financed, administered or supported by the GCF, either with its own resources or those of others, or any activity that materially affects or may materially affect or otherwise be relevant to the Fund;
- (k) **“GCF Personnel”** means any GCF Staff and any other individual contracted and/or engaged by the GCF and engaged by the GCF to perform official functions for the GCF, excluding Board Appointed Officials and External Members;¹
- (l) **“Host Country”** means the country or countries in which a Fund-related Activity is to be, is being, or has been, implemented;
- (m) **“Human Resources Legal Framework”** means all policies, instructions, procedures and guidance governing or instructing the conduct of GCF Staff;
- (n) **“Misconduct”** means specific acts of Misconduct by GCF Staff as provided by the Human Resources Legal Framework, and by Board Members, Alternative Board Members, their Advisers, External Members of GCF Panels and Groups, Board Appointed Officials, and the Executive Director as provided in the respective GCF policies on ethics and conflicts of interest;²
- (o) **“Prohibited Practices”** mean any of the following practices in relation to Fund-related Activities:
- (i) **“Corruption” or “Corrupt practice”** means the promise, offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value (including but not limited to gifts, gratuities, entertainments, favours, invitations, and benefits of any kind) or any undue advantage, or any act or omission that involves the abuse of authority or functions, for the purpose of influencing or to causing to influence improperly the actions of another party, or for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for another party;

¹ The categories of “trainees” and “volunteers” are not currently within the GCF legal framework. Should new categories of personnel be introduced in the future, these would be considered as “individuals contracted by the GCF and engaged by the GCF to perform Fund-related Activities.”.

² These are: Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Board of the Green Climate Fund (decision B.09/03) Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for External Members of the Green Climate Fund Panels and Groups (decision B.10/13); Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund (decision B.10/13), Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board Appointed Officials (decision B.13/27).

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- (ii) **“Fraud” or “Fraudulent practice”** means any act or omission, including misrepresentation or concealing material fact, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party for the purpose of obtaining a financial or other undue advantage for oneself or for a third party, or to avoid an obligation;
 - (iii) **“Coercion” or “Coercive practice”** means the impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of a party;
 - (iv) **“Collusion” or “Collusive practice”** means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of another party;
 - (v) **“Obstructive practice”** includes:
 - (1) Deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, concealing, or unreasonably withholding evidence or other requested information, documents or records, which are material to a Fund investigation;
 - (2) Making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Fund investigation;
 - (3) Threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to a Fund investigation or from pursuing a Fund investigation; or
 - (4) Materially impeding the Fund’s contractual rights of audit or access to information;
 - (vi) **“Abuse”** means theft, misappropriation, waste or improper use of property or assets related to a Fund-related Activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard;
 - (vii) **“Money Laundering”**³ is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(g) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy and refers to: (a) the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is derived from the crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of assisting any person who is involved in the commission of the crime to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions; (b) the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement, rights with respect to, or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing such property is derived from crime; or (c) the acquisition, possession or use of property knowing at the time of receipt such property was derived from a criminal offence;
 - (viii) **“Retaliation against Whistleblowers or Witnesses”** means any detrimental act, direct or indirect, recommended, threatened or taken against a Whistleblower or Witness (as such terms are defined in the relevant GCF policy), or person associated with a Whistleblower or Witness, because of his or her report of suspected Wrongdoing or cooperation with a Fund investigation by the Whistle-blower or Witness;
 - (ix) **“Financing of Terrorism” or “Terrorist Financing”** is defined as the commission of any offence as set out in Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.;
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- (p) **“Staff”** means all persons appointed to a post in GCF under a letter of appointment (individually, a “Staff member”);
- (q) **“Subsidiary Agreement”** means any agreement entered into by an accredited entity and an Executing Entity for the purpose of implementing a Fund-related Activity; and
- (r) **“Wrongdoing”** means conduct that violates GCF policies or which involves significant risk to the GCF, because it is harmful to its interests, reputation, operations or governance. Wrongdoing includes but is not limited to Misconduct, Prohibited Practices and Conflicts of Interest.

IV. Scope

- 7. This Policy shall apply to:
 - (a) The conduct of all Covered Individuals in connection with Fund-related Activities; and
 - (b) The conduct or practices of any Counterparty in connection with Fund-related Activities, and where applicable, in accordance with the terms of any legal agreement or contract concluded between the Counterparty and the Fund.

V. Guiding Principles

- 8. The GCF maintains a zero-tolerance policy of Prohibited Practices.
- 9. Covered Individuals and Counterparties shall maintain the highest level of integrity, accountability and efficiency, refrain from directly or indirectly condoning, encouraging, participating or engaging in Prohibited Practices in any Fund-related Activity and take action to deter, mitigate and/or correct Conflicts of Interest.
- 10. Any report of suspected Wrongdoing shall be made promptly to the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) and investigated in accordance with the requirements and procedures set out in the GCF’s Policy on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses, the IIU’s investigation standards and any other relevant GCF policies, procedures or guidelines.
- 11. The IIU shall take proactive measures including proactive integrity reviews to ensure that Prohibited Practices are prevented in Fund-related Activities and shall investigate reports of suspected Prohibited Practices to determine the veracity of the report and to recommend disciplinary/corrective or mitigation measures, in accordance with its Terms of Reference and other policies standards and procedures of the Fund.
- 12. The GCF may impose administrative sanctions or disciplinary/corrective measures, as appropriate, against any person who or entity which violates this Policy.
- 13. The GCF is entitled to seek the refund or restitution of GCF proceeds and other GCF funds to the extent such funds have been improperly used by the Covered Individual or Counterparty in a Fund -related Activity.

VI. Obligations of Covered Individuals

14. All Covered Individuals shall refrain from directly or indirectly condoning, encouraging, participating in or engaging in Prohibited Practices. Covered Individuals have a responsibility to avoid situations and activities that might reflect adversely on the GCF, compromise its operations, or lead to real or perceived Conflicts of Interest, as provided in the Human Resources Legal Framework, relevant contractual agreement, or applicable ethics and conflicts of interest policy.

15. Covered Individuals shall not encourage any person or entity to violate this Policy.

16. As provided in the Policy on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses and other relevant policies and procedures of the Fund, Covered Individuals shall report suspected Wrongdoing in relation to any Fund-related Activity.

17. A breach of, or failure to observe, the obligations set out in the paragraphs 14 to 16 by Co-Chairs of the Board, Board Members, Alternative Board Members, their Advisers, Board Appointed Officials, External Members of GCF Groups and Panels, the Executive Director, or GCF Staff shall amount to Misconduct, while for other GCF Personnel it shall amount to a breach of contract.

VII. Obligations of Counterparties

18. In any Fund-related Activity, Counterparties shall maintain the highest levels of integrity, accountability and efficiency, refrain from directly or indirectly condoning, encouraging, participating or engaging in Prohibited Practices, and take action to deter, mitigate and correct Conflicts of Interest.

19. In accordance with relevant GCF policies, standards and procedures, and subject to the terms of legal agreements concluded between a Counterparty and the GCF, Counterparties shall take timely and appropriate measures to:

- (a) Ensure that Fund-related Activities are carried out in accordance with this Policy;
- (b) Promptly disclose to the GCF any real or perceived Conflicts of Interest in relation to a Fund-related Activity;
- (c) Prevent Prohibited Practices from occurring in relation to a Fund-related Activity, including (but not limited to) adopting, implementing, and enforcing appropriate fiduciary and administrative practices and institutional arrangements to ensure that the Fund proceeds in the form of a grant, loan, contract award, or other forms of financing or support are used only for the purposes for which such financing or support was granted;
- (d) Promptly inform the GCF of Prohibited Practices found, suspected or alleged in connection with a Fund-related Activity;
- (e) Investigate any occurrence of, or report of suspected Prohibited Practices in a Fund-related Activity and report preliminary and final findings of investigations to the GCF;
- (f) To the satisfaction of the GCF, respond to, mitigate, and remedy any Prohibited Practice that is found to have occurred in a Fund-related Activity and take actions to prevent the re-occurrence of such Prohibited Practice;
- (g) Cooperate fully with the GCF in any IIU investigation into reports of suspected Prohibited Practices in connection with a Fund-related Activity, and take all appropriate measures to ensure the full cooperation of relevant persons and entities subject to such investigation, including, in each case, allowing the Fund to meet with relevant persons

and to inspect all their relevant accounts, records and other documents relating to the GCF-related Activities and have them audited by, or on behalf of the GCF; and

(h) Ensure that individuals or entities sanctioned by the GCF do not participate in Fund-related Activities in violation of their administrative sanction.⁴

20. Subject to terms of their legal agreements with the GCF, Counterparties that are contracted to carry out a Fund-related Activity shall ensure that GCF funds provided for or resulting from the purposes of any such Fund-related Activity are not, or contractually cause such funds not to be, used by it or by any recipients, including any Executing Entity, to whom the funds are disbursed, for any illegal or improper purposes (including bribery), contrary to any contractual agreements with the GCF, or contrary to any laws of the Host Country in which the Fund-related Activity is to be implemented. This obligation shall be met by taking actions including incorporating in Subsidiary Agreements provisions corresponding to a Counterparty's own rules, policies and procedures which should enable it to comply with this Policy and contractually oblige the Executing Entity to incorporate such provisions in its agreements with third parties relating to the relevant Fund-related Activity.

21. Any Counterparty may seek advice from the GCF Secretariat or the IIU regarding its efforts to satisfy the obligations listed under paragraphs 18 and 19.

VIII. Actions to be taken by the GCF in Cases of Prohibited Practices

8.1 Covered Individuals

22. A Staff member who is found to have directly or indirectly condoned, encouraged, participated in or engaged in a Prohibited Practice may be subject to disciplinary measures,⁵ as provided in the Human Resources Legal Framework.

23. Any other GCF Personnel who is found to have directly or indirectly condoned, encouraged, participated in or engaged in a Prohibited Practice may be subject to administrative sanctions, as provided in the terms of the contractual agreement concluded between the GCF Personnel and the GCF.

24. With the exception of the role stipulated in paragraph 27, any disciplinary measures or administrative sanctions to be imposed on GCF Personnel shall be determined and enforced by the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be guided by the findings and recommendations made by the IIU at the conclusion of its investigation of a report of suspected Wrongdoing concerning GCF Personnel as provided for in this Policy. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the suspected Wrongdoing is alleged to have been committed by GCF Personnel working under the Authority of the IIU, the relevant investigations shall be conducted in accordance with procedures to be approved by the Board.⁶

25. Reports of suspected Wrongdoing concerning GCF Board Appointed Officials (except for the Head of the IIU) or External Members or their Immediate Family Members, the investigation of such suspected Wrongdoing, and the determination and enforcement of any disciplinary measure or administrative sanction thereto, shall be addressed according to the procedures set out in the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board Appointed Officials, the Policy on

⁴ This is subject to the adoption of policies regarding sanctions and exclusions.

⁵ Corrective measures may include censure, suspension from duty with or without pay or with reduced pay, demotion, reduction in pay, or separation of the staff member from the service of the GCF. A staff member may also be suspended from duty with pay, without prejudice, pending investigation of a charge.

⁶ Paragraph 7, Annex IV, decision B.06/09. Until such time as the relevant procedures have been approved by the Board, reports of suspected Wrongdoing by GCF Personnel working under the authority of the Head of the IIU shall be addressed by the Ethics and Audit Committee.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund, and the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for External Members, as appropriate.

26. Reports of suspected Wrongdoing concerning the Head of the IIU or her/his Immediate Family Members,⁷ the investigation of such suspected Wrongdoing, and the determination and enforcement of any disciplinary measure thereto, shall be referred to and addressed by the Ethics and Audit Committee, in accordance with the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board Appointed Officials.

27. Reports of suspected Wrongdoing concerning a GCF Personnel of the IIU, or his or her Immediate Family Members, the investigation of such suspected Wrongdoing, and the determination and enforcement of any disciplinary measure thereto, shall be referred to and addressed by the Ethics and Audit Committee on an interim basis until an appropriate mechanism or procedure is established by the GCF Secretariat, in consultation with the Board, as stipulated in the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board Appointed Officials.

28. Reports of suspected Wrongdoing concerning a Co-Chair of the Board, Board Member, Alternate Board Member or Adviser or their Immediate Family Members, the investigation of such suspected Wrongdoing, and the determination and enforcement of any corrective measure thereto, shall be addressed according to the procedures set out in the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Board of the Green Climate Fund.

8.2 Counterparties

29. The IIU shall investigate reports of suspected Wrongdoing regarding Counterparties in accordance with the Fund's investigative standards and procedures, and shall report its findings and recommendations to the Executive Director and the Ethics and Audit Committee. For that purpose, the IIU shall:

- (a) Cooperate closely with the relevant departments or units of Counterparties regarding investigations, guided by cooperation agreements concluded between the IIU and Counterparties; and
- (b) Share best practices and give guidance to support the Fund's readiness activities.

30. The GCF has the right to reject or disqualify a proposal for a Fund-related Activity if it determines that the Counterparty has directly or indirectly condoned, encouraged, participated or engaged in any Prohibited Practices in the preparation of the project proposal.

31. The GCF has the right, subject to the terms of any legal agreement entered into between a Counterparty and the GCF, to sanction any Counterparty for directly or indirectly condoning, encouraging, participating in, engaging in or otherwise failing to prevent or effectively mitigate any Prohibited Practice in a Fund-Related Activity in accordance with the GCF's policies, guidelines and procedures, as may be adopted and amended from time to time. Administrative sanctions may include:

- (a) Reprimand in reference to a formal letter of reprimand of the Counterparty's behaviour;
- (b) Cancellation or suspension in reference to cancellation or suspension of GCF proceeds (in whole or in part) which have been allocated to a Counterparty but not yet disbursed under a financing agreement or contract for goods or services;
- (c) Debarment in reference to a declaration that a Counterparty, either indefinitely or for a specified period, is ineligible:
 - (1) To be awarded future financing from the Fund;

⁷ As defined in the Policies on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest and the Terms of Reference of the IIU.

- (2) To be awarded a contract financed by the Fund;
 - (3) To benefit from a contract financed by the Fund, financially or otherwise, for example as a subcontractor; and
 - (4) To otherwise participate in GCF-related Activity, in whole or in part;
- (d) Conditional Non-Debarment in reference to a requirement for the Counterparty to comply, within specified time periods, with certain remedial, preventative or other measures as a condition to avoid debarment. In the event the Counterparty fails to demonstrate its compliance with the prescribed conditions within the time periods established, a debarment may automatically become effective for a period; and
- (e) Restitution of funds in reference to restitution of improperly used or diverted GCF proceeds or other GCF Funds.
32. Subject to the adoption of the administrative sanctions and exclusions policy, as an interim measure, the EAC will make a preliminary determination of the administrative sanction to be imposed on a Counterparty for confirmation by the Board.

IX. Referrals

33. The IIU, guided by the IIU's Terms of Reference and the Human Resources Legal Framework, shall refer any report of suspected Wrongdoing which falls outside the competency of the IIU, to the appropriate office, division or unit with the GCF (including the Independent Redress Mechanism) for resolution.
34. Where the IIU determines, upon the conclusion of an investigation, that an unlawful or criminal activity has or may be reasonably suspected to have occurred, the IIU may recommend to the Executive Director and the Ethics and Audit Committee that the matter be referred to the component authorities. The Executive Director in consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee shall determine whether to make the referral. In cases where a Covered Individual who enjoys GCF privileges and immunities is involved in a suspected unlawful or criminal activity, the Executive Director may also determine whether or not to waive the Covered Individual's privileges and immunities.

X. Communication and Capacity Building Actions

35. The IIU will proactively make known and communicate widely this and other integrity policies and procedures of the GCF to Covered Individuals, Counterparties and other stakeholders through all available means and as far as possible. It shall ensure that channels for reporting suspected Prohibited Practices are easily accessible and available.
36. To further the effective implementation of this Policy, the IIU will conduct integrity training in coordination and cooperation with relevant offices of the GCF Secretariat, Counterparties and other stakeholders. The IIU will promote peer learning and engage in platforms for the sharing of best practices and give guidance that can be helpful in the implementation of Fund-related Activities.
37. The IIU will provide policy and best practice advice and support to Accredited Entities and other relevant stakeholders in developing and implementing their own Prohibited Practices policies and procedures regarding Fund-related Activities.

XI. Policy administration, monitoring, reporting and review

38. The IIU, shall be responsible for the implementation of this Policy. The IIU shall collaborate with the Secretariat to advise and ensure the effective implementation of the policy including regular engagement and communication within the scope of the Policy.
39. The IIU shall report on the implementation of this Policy, on an annual basis to the Board.
40. The Secretariat shall, in collaboration with the IIU, implement this Policy through obtaining appropriate contractual protections and ensuring that obligations of Counterparties stipulated in the Policy are provided for in its legal agreements/arrangements with Covered Individuals and Counterparties and through assessing, reviewing, monitoring and reporting the compliance of Covered Individuals and Counterparties to this Policy.
41. The IIU shall proactively monitor and review the implementation of this Policy.
42. The Ethics and Audit Committee shall, every three years with the support of the IIU, present a report to the Board on issues related to the implementation of this Policy along with any recommendations for changes to it.

XII. Consequential amendments to existing policies

43. The definition of “Prohibited Practices” in the Policies on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board (including alternate Board members and advisers), External Members and Board Appointed Officials (other than the Executive Director) is hereby amended such that with respect to:
- (a) The ‘Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Board of the Green Climate Fund’, the definitions in paragraph 3(m)(i)-(v) of Annex I to decision B.09/03 shall be deleted and replaced with the definitions set out in paragraphs 6(o)((i)-(ix)) above, to read as follows:
- (i) **“Corruption” or “Corrupt practice”** means the promise, offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value (including but not limited to gifts, gratuities, entertainments, favours, invitations, and benefits of any kind) or any undue advantage, or any act or omission that involves the abuse of authority or functions, for the purpose of influencing or to causing to influence improperly the actions of another party, or for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for another party;
 - (ii) **“Fraud” or “Fraudulent practice”** means any act or omission, including misrepresentation or concealing material fact, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party for the purpose of obtaining a financial or other undue advantage for oneself or for a third party, or to avoid an obligation;
 - (iii) **“Coercion” or “Coercive practice”** means the impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of a party;
 - (iv) **“Collusion” or “Collusive practice”** means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of another party;
 - (v) **“Obstructive practice”** includes:
 - (1) Deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, concealing, or unreasonably withholding evidence or other requested information, documents or records, which are material to a Fund investigation;

- (2) Making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Fund investigation;
- (3) Threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to a Fund investigation or from pursuing a Fund investigation; or
- (4) Materially impeding the Fund’s contractual rights of audit or access to information;
- (vi) **“Abuse”** means theft, misappropriation, waste or improper use of property or assets related to a Fund-related Activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard;
- (vii) **“Money Laundering”**⁸ is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(g) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy and refers to: (a) the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is derived from the crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of assisting any person who is involved in the commission of the crime to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions; (b) the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement, rights with respect to, or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing such property is derived from crime; or (c) the acquisition, possession or use of property knowing at the time of receipt such property was derived from a criminal offence;
- (viii) **“Retaliation against Whistleblowers or Witnesses”** means any detrimental act, direct or indirect, recommended, threatened or taken against a Whistleblower or Witness (as such terms are defined in the relevant GCF policy), or person associated with a Whistleblower or Witness, because of his or her report of suspected Wrongdoing or cooperation with a Fund investigation by the Whistle-blower or Witness;
- (ix) **“Financing of Terrorism” or “Terrorist Financing”** is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(f) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy, and means the commission of any offence as set out in Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism;⁹
- (x) **“Harassment”** means unwelcome verbal or physical behaviour that unreasonably interferes with work or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment;
- (b) The ‘Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for External Members of the Green Climate Fund’, the definitions in paragraph 3(n)(i)-(v) of Annex XXVI to decision B.10/13 shall be deleted and replaced with the definitions set out in paragraphs 6(o)((i)-(ix)) above, to read as follows:
 - (i) **“Corruption” or “Corrupt practice”** means the promise, offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value (including but not limited to gifts, gratuities, entertainments, favours, invitations, and benefits of any kind) or any undue advantage, or any act or omission that involves the abuse of authority or functions, for the purpose of influencing or to causing to influence improperly the actions of another party, or for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for another party;

⁸ Based on definitions used in the Interim Policy, as elaborated in the AML/CFT policy (decision B.18/10).

⁹ Id.

- (ii) **“Fraud” or “Fraudulent practice”** means any act or omission, including misrepresentation or concealing material fact, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party for the purpose of obtaining a financial or other undue advantage for oneself or for a third party, or to avoid an obligation;
- (iii) **“Coercion” or “Coercive practice”** means the impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of a party;
- (iv) **“Collusion” or “Collusive practice”** means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of another party;
- (v) **“Obstructive practice”** includes:
 - (1) Deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, concealing, or unreasonably withholding evidence or other requested information, documents or records, which are material to a Fund investigation;
 - (2) Making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Fund investigation;
 - (3) Threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to a Fund investigation or from pursuing a Fund investigation; or
 - (4) Materially impeding the Fund’s contractual rights of audit or access to information;
- (vi) **“Abuse”** means theft, misappropriation, waste or improper use of property or assets related to a Fund-related Activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard;
- (vii) **“Money Laundering”**¹⁰ is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(g) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy and refers to: (a) the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is derived from the crime, for the purpose of concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of assisting any person who is involved in the commission of the crime to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions; (b) the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement, rights with respect to, or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing such property is derived from crime; or (c) the acquisition, possession or use of property knowing at the time of receipt such property was derived from a criminal offence;
- (viii) **“Retaliation against Whistleblowers or Witnesses”** means any detrimental act, direct or indirect, recommended, threatened or taken against a Whistleblower or Witness (as such terms are defined in the relevant GCF policy), or person associated with a Whistleblower or Witness, because of his or her report of suspected Wrongdoing or cooperation with a Fund investigation by the Whistle-blower or Witness;
- (ix) **“Financing of Terrorism” or “Terrorist Financing”** is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(f) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy, and means the commission of any

¹⁰ Based on definitions used in the Interim Policy, as elaborated in the AML/CFT policy (decision B.18/10).

offence as set out in Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism;¹¹

- (x) **“Harassment”** means unwelcome verbal or physical behaviour that unreasonably interferes with work or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.; and
- (c) The ‘Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for Board Appointed Officials’, the definitions in paragraph 5(o)(i)-(v) of Annex V to decision B.13/27 shall be deleted and replaced with the definitions set out in paragraphs 6(o)((i)-(ix)) above, to read as follows:
- (i) **“Corruption” or “Corrupt practice”** means the promise, offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value (including but not limited to gifts, gratuities, entertainments, favours, invitations, and benefits of any kind) or any undue advantage, or any act or omission that involves the abuse of authority or functions, for the purpose of influencing or to causing to influence improperly the actions of another party, or for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for another party;
- (ii) **“Fraud” or “Fraudulent practice”** means any act or omission, including misrepresentation or concealing material fact, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party for the purpose of obtaining a financial or other undue advantage for oneself or for a third party, or to avoid an obligation;
- (iii) **“Coercion” or “Coercive practice”** means the impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of a party;
- (iv) **“Collusion” or “Collusive practice”** means an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including for the purpose of improperly influencing the actions of another party;
- (v) **“Obstructive practice”** includes:
- (1) Deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering, concealing, or unreasonably withholding evidence or other requested information, documents or records, which are material to a Fund investigation;
 - (2) Making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Fund investigation;
 - (3) Threatening, harassing, or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to a Fund investigation or from pursuing a Fund investigation; or
 - (4) Materially impeding the Fund’s contractual rights of audit or access to information;
- (vi) **“Abuse”** means theft, misappropriation, waste or improper use of property or assets related to a Fund-related Activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard;
- (vii) **“Money Laundering”**¹² is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(g) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy and refers to: (a) the conversion or transfer of property, knowing that such property is derived from the crime, for the purpose of

¹¹ Id.

¹² Based on definitions used in the Interim Policy, as elaborated in the AML/CFT policy (decision B.18/10).

concealing or disguising the illicit origin of the property or of assisting any person who is involved in the commission of the crime to evade the legal consequences of his or her actions; (b) the concealment or disguise of the true nature, source, location, disposition, movement, rights with respect to, or ownership of or rights with respect to property, knowing such property is derived from crime; or (c) the acquisition, possession or use of property knowing at the time of receipt such property was derived from a criminal offence;

- (viii) **“Retaliation against Whistleblowers or Witnesses”** means any detrimental act, direct or indirect, recommended, threatened or taken against a Whistleblower or Witness (as such terms are defined in the relevant GCF policy), or person associated with a Whistleblower or Witness, because of his or her report of suspected Wrongdoing or cooperation with a Fund investigation by the Whistle-blower or Witness;
- (ix) **“Financing of Terrorism” or “Terrorist Financing”** is as more clearly defined in Clause 12(f) of the GCF AML/CFT Policy, and means the commission of any offence as set out in Article 2 of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism;¹³
- (x) **“Harassment”** means unwelcome verbal or physical behaviour that unreasonably interferes with work or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

44. The definitions of Prohibited Practices in this Policy shall replace the definitions and scope of Prohibited Practices in any other existing GCF Policy.

XIII. Effective Date

45. This Policy shall come into effect upon approval of the Board of the GCF from 28 February 2019 and supersede the Interim Policy on Prohibited Practices, as contained in decision B.12/31, paragraph (h).

¹³ Id.



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