

Decision -/CP.21

Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Global Environment Facility

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 12/CP.2, 3/CP.16, 5/CP.16, 7/CP.16, 11/CP.17, 9/CP.18, 6/CP.19 and 8/CP.20,

Welcoming the report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and the information contained therein on the implementation of the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility,¹

Also welcoming the pledges and contributions made to the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund,

Noting the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance contained in its report to the Conference of the Parties with regard to the provision of draft guidance to the Global Environment Facility,²

1. *Notes* that the Global Environment Facility has supported implementation of the remaining elements of the least developed countries work programme, including the update and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, by providing funding to projects aimed at building capacity for the least developed countries to participate effectively in climate change processes, promoting public awareness on climate change issues, promoting the transfer of adaptation technology, and strengthening meteorological and hydrological services;
2. *Welcomes* the investments by the Global Environment Facility in sustainable forest management and activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, harnessing multiple benefits from forests and tackling deforestation and forest degradation in line with the programming directions of the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund;³
3. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide finance to the activities referred to in paragraph 2 above, also taking into account decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 8, and decision -/CP.21 as appropriate;⁴
4. *Encourages* additional voluntary financial contributions to provide support for the national adaptation plan process through contributions to the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund;

¹ FCCC/CP/2015/4 and Add.1.

² FCCC/CP/2015/8, annex V.

³ See document GEF/A.5/07/Rev.01, available at <<https://www.thegef.org/gef/node/10541>>.

⁴ For the text of the draft decision, see FCCC/SBSTA/2015/L.5/Add.2.

5. *Welcomes* the addition of eight project agencies to the network of the Global Environment Facility;
6. *Notes* that the Independent Evaluation Office of the Global Environment Facility is carrying out a review of the Least Developed Countries Fund;
7. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facility to include the conclusions of the review in its report to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-second session (November 2016);
8. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to carry out a technical review of the programme priorities of the Least Developed Countries Fund, taking into account the independent review referred to in paragraph 6 above, and focus the technical review on, inter alia:
 - (a) Undertaking pilot concrete climate change activities that are particularly relevant for the least developed countries;
 - (b) Enhancing longer-term institutional capacity to design and execute activities referred to in paragraph 8(a) above;
9. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to work with all its agencies and recipient countries to ensure that these countries can take full advantage of the expanded network of agencies;
10. *Welcomes* the exploration of innovative non-grant instruments by the Global Environment Facility and *encourages* the Global Environment Facility to work with its agencies, recipient countries and the private sector to submit proposals;
11. *Also welcomes* the approval of projects by the Global Environment Facility to support 46 developing country Parties in preparing their intended nationally determined contributions⁵ and *encourages* the Global Environment Facility to continue providing such support;
12. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to consider how to support developing country Parties in formulating policies, strategies, programmes and projects to implement activities that advance priorities identified in their respective intended nationally determined contributions in a manner consistent with the operational policies and guidelines of the Global Environment Facility, starting in 2016;
13. *Notes* the actions of the Global Environment Facility to establish a more coherent, system-based approach for managing and sharing information and knowledge gained from projects and programmes of the Global Environment Facility in order to improve the effectiveness of the Global Environment Facility and its agencies and enhance the capacity of recipient countries;
14. *Welcomes* the efforts to date of the Global Environment Facility to engage with the Green Climate Fund and *encourages* both entities to further articulate and build on the complementarity of their policies and programmes within the Financial Mechanism of the Convention;
15. *Invites* Parties to submit to the secretariat annually, in writing and no later than 10 weeks prior to each session of the Conference of the Parties, their views and recommendations on the elements to be taken into account in developing guidance to the Global Environment Facility;

⁵ As at 16 September 2015.

16. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to include, in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties, information on the steps it has taken to implement the guidance provided in this decision and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties.
