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**Implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management:
Financial and technical resources for implementation**

Information on the fifth replenishment process of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund

Note by the Secretariat

1. As indicated in the note by the Secretariat on regional discussions on financial considerations (document SAICM/ICCM.2/INF/14), many Strategic Approach stakeholders participating in regional meetings during the intersessional period highlighted the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as a possible mechanism for the future financing of Strategic Approach implementation. During the informal discussions on preparations for the second session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, held in Rome on 23 and 24 October 2008, interest was expressed in receiving further information about the current GEF replenishment discussions and respective mechanisms. The present note provides a brief overview of the current replenishment discussions and mechanisms with particular emphasis on opportunities for Strategic Approach stakeholders, in particular government representatives, to contribute to such discussions.

I. Background

2. The GEF Trust Fund replenishment is a process held every four years whereby donor nations commit financial resources to support the operation of GEF. The latest replenishment (fourth) covered the period from July 2006 to June 2010, and amounted to \$3.1 billion contributed by 32 donor countries.

* SAICM/ICCM.2/1.

3. According to the provisions contained in the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environmental Facility (GEF Instrument),¹ which governs the financing of the GEF Trust Fund through contributions, the replenishment process is initiated at the request of the GEF Council.² The mobilization of financial resources, including through the replenishment process, falls within the purview of the role and fiduciary responsibilities of the GEF trustee, the World Bank, with which the GEF Council cooperates in these matters. Participants in the replenishment negotiations are donor Governments, while secretariats of the conventions for which GEF serves as the financial mechanism and GEF agencies are invited as observers.

4. Subsequent to a request, the GEF trustee initiates the replenishment process by planning negotiations jointly with prospective participants in terms of the schedule and subjects to be raised in the replenishment discussions. These discussions are informed by replenishment papers, which include policy and programming documents. The negotiations are usually undertaken in several phases within a period of approximately 12 months (such as in the case of the fourth replenishment process). Once participants reach agreement, the approved replenishment document is considered by the GEF Council for endorsement and submitted to the World Bank, as trustee of the GEF Trust, for adoption by the World Bank Executive Directors (thereby authorizing the World Bank to manage the resources made available).

5. The replenishment negotiations are normally brought to a conclusion prior to the GEF Assembly, the highest governing body of GEF.³ A report, providing a summary of the negotiations on the replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund is submitted to the Assembly. It includes the participants' policy recommendations and framework for programming resources for the replenishment period, which usually build on the papers discussed at the replenishment meetings. The Assembly is invited to take note of the replenishment agreements and its representatives are welcome to express their views on the report during the constituency and ministerial statements to the plenary of the Assembly.

6. Countries can contribute to the discussions throughout the replenishment negotiations, not only directly when being a donor to GEF and a participant to the discussions, but also indirectly through their respective Council members by providing comments on the policy and programming documents prepared for the replenishment discussions. A list of GEF Council members and alternates can be found in the annex to the present note for ease of reference.

II. Milestones of the fifth GEF replenishment negotiations

7. Since the current fourth GEF replenishment period will end in June 2010, the discussions on the fifth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund will run throughout 2009, with a view to reaching final agreement by March 2010. The process was formally launched when the GEF Council, meeting from 11 to 13 November 2008, requested the World Bank as the trustee of the GEF Trust Fund, in cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of GEF, to initiate discussions on the replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund.⁴ A planning meeting for such negotiations was held on 14 November 2008, at which donor participants were invited to agree upon a work programme and a schedule of meetings.

1 Chapter 10, para. 10, Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environmental Facility, as amended by the second and third GEF Assemblies

2 The GEF Council functions as an independent board of directors, with primary responsibility for developing, adopting and evaluating GEF programmes. Council members representing 32 constituencies (16 from developing countries, 14 from developed countries, and two from countries with transitional economies) meet twice each year for three days and also conduct business by mail. Decisions are typically by consensus. The Council has an open-door policy toward non-governmental organizations and representatives of civil society.

3 The GEF Assembly is the highest governing body of GEF in which representatives of all 177 member countries participate. It meets every three to four years, and is responsible for reviewing and evaluating GEF general policies, its operation and its membership. The Assembly is also responsible for considering and approving proposed amendments to the Instrument, the set of rules by which GEF operates. Ministers and high-level government delegations of all GEF member countries take part in the meetings. The Assembly combines plenary meetings and high-level panels, exhibits, side events and GEF project site visits. Prominent environmentalists, parliamentarians, business leaders, scientists and non-governmental organization leaders discuss global environmental challenges within the context of sustainable development and other international development goals.

4 Joint Summary of the Chairs, 34th Council meeting.

8. The first two replenishment meetings are scheduled for March and June 2009, respectively, during which aspects of the replenishment programming strategies will be discussed. Based on previous practice, the replenishment process would conclude before the upcoming fourth GEF Assembly, scheduled to be held in Uruguay in the first half of 2010.

Annex

Current composition of the GEF Council*

Council Member	Date of Appointment	Alternate Member	Date of Appointment	Constituencies
ABOUL AZM, Mawaheb (Egypt)	Jul. 2007	ECHIRK, Djamel (Algeria)	Jun. 2007	Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia
BABAEI, Mahmoud (Iran)	Oct. 8, 2008	RAHAGHI, Massoud Rezvanian (Iran)	Nov. 2006	Iran
BERARDI, Gisella (Italy)	May 2008	MORDINI, Claudia (Italy)	Nov. 2006	Italy
BJORNEBYE, Erik (Norway)	Oct. 2006	ANDERSEN, Geert Aagaard (Denmark)	Oct. 2006	Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway
BUYS, Jozef (Belgium)	Mar. 2008	FERJANCIC, Emil (Slovenia)	Mar. 2008	Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey
CORNEAU, Hélène (Canada)	Nov. 2006	SHELTINGA, Jan (Canada)	Jul. 31, 2008	Canada
DE JONG, Gerben (Netherlands)	Sep. 2005	SIPS, Herman (Netherlands)	Oct. 2007	The Netherlands
MINGA, Alexis (Congo)	Sep. 2008	KASULU, Vincent (Congo DR)	Sep. 2008	Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Congo DR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe
FASS-METZ, Frank (Germany)	Apr. 2008	von Kleist, Wilhelm (Germany)	Feb. 2007	Germany
GRAYEB-BAYATA, Claudia (Mexico)	Jun. 2005	MENDOZA, Lamed (Panama)	Mar. 2008	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela
Henderson, Jan (New Zealand)	Feb. 2008	Fulton, Deborah (Australia)	Feb. 2008	Australia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea
IVANOV, Violeta (Moldova)	Jan. 2007	STOICA, Silviu (Romania)	Jan. 2007	Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Ukraine
JORTIKKA-LAITINEN, Tiina (Finland)	Jun. 2007	RABE, Patrick (Sweden)	Oct. 2007	Estonia, Finland, Sweden
KOLLY, Thomas (Switzerland)	Aug. 2006	HILBER, Anton (Switzerland)	Apr. 2005	Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
KUMAR, Dhanendra (India)	Nov. 2005	KHAN, Zakir (Bangladesh)	Nov. 2005	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka

* Extracted from the GEF website at <http://www.gefweb.org/default.aspx> (8 January 2009) and reproduced without formal editing.

Council Member	Date of Appointment	Alternate Member	Date of Appointment	Constituencies
NAPICA, Policarpo (Mozambique)	Oct. 2007	FAKIR, Zaheer (South Africa)	Oct. 2007	Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe
ALVAREZ FRANCO, Vanesa (Spain)	Sept. 2008	MOTA PINTO, Nuno (Portugal)	Nov. 2003	Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain
ODENBREIT, Andre (Brazil)	Jan. 2008	ALBAN, Andrea (Colombia)	May 2007	Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador
OTENG-YEBOAH, Alfred (Ghana)	Feb. 2008	BARRY, Nima Bah (Guinea)	Oct. 2008	Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo
PIZER, William (United States)	Aug. 2008	REIFSNYDER, Daniel (United States)	May 2006	United States
PURNOMO, Agus (Indonesia)	Mar. 2008			Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
RENCKI, Julien (France)	Jul. 2007	MARTIN, Marc-Antoine (France)	Sep. 2002	France
SAPAG, Alvaro (Chile)	Jul. 2008	LOPEZ, Carlos (Paraguay)	Jul. 2008	Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
SARR, Momodou (Gambia)	Dec. 2007	GOMES BARBOSA, Tomas (Guinea-Bissau)	Oct. 2008	Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, The Gambia
SHAH, Shuja (Pakistan)	Aug. 2005	LUTFI, Sultan (Jordan)	Feb. 2001	Afghanistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen
TAKAMI, Hiroshi (Japan)	Jul. 2008	KATO, Kikuko (Japan)	Aug. 2007	Japan
TOTSKIY, Anatoly (Russian Federation)	Sep. 2006	DAVTYAN, Ruzanna (Armenia)	Aug. 2006	Armenia, Belarus, Russian Federation
VAN TAI, Nguyen (Vietnam)	Mar. 2008	RITHIRAK, Long (Cambodia)	Mar. 2008	Cambodia, Korea DPR, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
WEECH, Philip (Bahamas)	Feb. 2008	WARD, RICARDO (Barbados)	Feb. 2007	Antigua And Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
WHEATLEY, Josceline (United Kingdom)	Mar. 2004	WHALEY, Christopher (United Kingdom)	May 2006	United Kingdom

Council Member	Date of Appointment	Alternate Member	Date of Appointment	Constituencies
WOLDEYOHANNIS, Mogos (Eritrea)	Mar. 2007	GEBRE EGZIABHER, Tewolde (Ethiopia)	Apr. 2007	Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda
ZOU, Jiayi (China)	Mar. 2005	YANG, Yingming (China)	Oct. 2007	China
