

Climate Finance Advisory Service

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Daily Briefing

6th GCF Board Meeting
(18–21 February 2014, Bali)

This is the Climate Finance Advisory Service (CFAS) Daily Briefing. Produced at key meetings and negotiations by the CFAS expert team, the Daily Briefings try to provide a concise, informative update on key discussions that have taken place at each day of the meeting and give an overview of substantive points of action or progress. Please note that this is an independent summary by CFAS and not officially mandated by the GCF Board or Secretariat.

Summary from 19 February 2014

Opening of the meeting, agenda, reports, travel policy

The official sessions of the sixth meeting of the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) began on Wednesday, February 19th in Bali, Indonesia. The meeting was opened by Co-Chairs Konukiewitz and Salceda. They stressed the need for this meeting to make decisions to allow the Fund to receive its initial capitalization in 2014, making it possible for the Fund to realize its ambition. They also called on Board Members to strive for compromise and balanced and fair decisions. The agenda of the meeting was adopted, with some small changes. The report of the 5th Board Meeting in Paris was adopted. The Co-Chairs and the Secretariat reported on their activities since the last meeting, including the opening of the permanent secretariat in Songdo, South Korea, on December 4th.

At previous meetings, the Board had created three committees, the Investment committee, Risk Management Committee and Ethics Committee, who briefly who reported on their work. The Board had also decided to set up a Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG). The PSAG members from the private sector and civil society were approved today by the Co-Chairs. The civil society active observer expressed concern with the selection process, as the candidates self-selected by civil society organisations were not chosen and the process seemed intransparent. The Board members who sit on the PSAG explained the process and stated that they followed the terms laid out in the relevant Board decision. However, other Board Members also felt that the process had not been sufficiently clear to them, so it was decided to continue the discussion in order to clarify the process, but without revoking the selection of the PSAG members.

The next agenda item concerned the travel policy, which could not yet be adopted. The main issue was whether travel costs should be reimbursed for Board Members, Alternates, advisers and active observers from all developing countries or only for those below a certain per capita income threshold. The Board decided to set up a contact group that will discuss the issue further and report back with a proposed decision.

Initial modalities for the operation of the Fund's mitigation and adaptation windows and the Private Sector Facility

The Secretariat presented document GCF/B.06/02, which summarizes the different decisions that have been made and still need to be made and that, taken together, will constitute the initial modalities for

the operation of the fund. The proposed decision was for the Board to note that the modalities are still under discussion, as outlined in the document, and that conclusions can only be reached at the next Board meeting in May. Some Board members expressed their concern that there was no sufficient clarity on the operational modalities, particularly for the Private Sector Facility, and thus the title of the decision would be misleading. It was also pointed out that country ownership should be reflected more strongly in the paper. With the understanding that this was work in progress and a small textual change, the decision was adopted.

Additional results areas and indicators for adaptation activities

The Board had a substantive discussion on additional results areas and indicators for adaptation contained in document GCF/B.06/03. That document suggested to add some result areas and to reorganize them into a framework of 13 areas, with five focusing on particular exposure units (e.g. cities or ecosystems), 6 focusing on particular approaches (e.g. community-based adaptation or knowledge hubs) and “Adaptation activities to reduce climate-related vulnerabilities” as a cross-cutting one. Some Board Members called for adding additional result areas and indicators. It was pointed out that “people, health and well-being” should also be a cross-cutting area, as it is a central goal of all adaptation activities. Some suggested focusing more on resilience outcomes, rather than sectors. On indicators, some members noted the need to keep them high-level and manageable for developing countries. The Board decided to request the Secretariat to further develop the adaptation result areas and indicators in conjunction with the Results Management Framework once it is decided upon by the Board and taking into consideration comments made during the discussion.

Progress report on the initial Results Management Framework

As the last item of the day, the Board considered the Progress Report on Initial Results Management Framework for the Fund (GCF/B.06/04). There was consensus that more work was needed on this. For instance, some Board Members expressed scepticism on including country-wide indicators, especially on greenhouse-gas emissions, and on including indicators on agriculture and reduced emissions from deforestation, without linking to ongoing discussions under the UNFCCC. Others suggested that gender-indicators or indicators to measure co-benefits be added. It was also pointed out that different indicators than those currently proposed might be needed to measure the paradigm shift the fund is meant to promote. The document will be revised and submitted to the Board again for its May meeting.

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