

Climate Finance Advisory Service

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Daily Briefing

7th Standing Committee on Finance Meeting

(16–18 June 2014, Bonn)

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 SCF.

Summary from 18 June 2014

The 7th meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) concluded on Wednesday, 18 June 2014, addressing the outstanding items on the agenda, namely the Guidance to the Operating Entities to the Financial Mechanism and the representation of the SCF in the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM).

At the beginning of the final session of the 7th meeting, SCF members continued their discussions on the revised document on improving **guidance to the Operating Entities (OEs) of the Financial Mechanism (FM)**. Following yesterday's deliberations on how to improve guidance to the OEs, today's session addressed the procedural approach before COP 20. For this, the revised document contained three options: 1) the SCF agrees on elements of draft guidance, based on comments to the report of the GEF, submissions by SCF members or Parties, and proposes this draft guidance to the COP; if agreement is not possible (as last year) 2) submissions by SCF members would just be compiled into a template and submitted to the COP; or 3) to mandate the co-chairs to prepare elements of guidance, to be presented to the COP as a co-chairs compilation. After a short debate, the SCF agreed to intend employing the first option, aiming to agree on draft elements of guidance for the OEs at the next SCF meeting.

The last substantial agenda item of the meeting considered the **representation of the SCF in the interim Executive Committee (ExCom) of the WIM**, which is tasked to develop an initial two-year work plan for the implementation of the functions of the WIM. As with other bodies of the Convention, e.g. the Technology Executive Committee or the Adaptation Committee, the SCF is represented in the ExCom with two members, Mr. Paul Oquist (Nicaragua) and Ms. Willemijn Slingenberg-Verdegaal (Netherlands), who will be replaced by Mr. Georg Børsting (Norway) from 1 September 2014 on.

Following a presentation on a proposal of activities for the ExCom on finance to be submitted by one of the SCF representatives at the upcoming WIM meeting (planned 31 July / 1 August 2014), SCF members discussed the role which representatives would have, when engaging with the ExCom of the WIM, i.e. speaking and acting on behalf of the SCF or acting in their own personal capacity. Some members felt that clarity on the concrete mandate given to the SCF representatives was crucial, especially when dealing with a proposal such as the one presented by one of the SCF members earlier. After deliberations by the SCF and a short intervention by a legal advisor of the UNFCCC secretariat, the SCF concluded that members representing the SCF in other bodies such as the ExCom would act

in their own personal capacity. Therefore, a proposal like the one mentioned before would not need the approval by the entire SCF. Nevertheless, members were encouraged and invited to provide their views and comments to the proposal by 20 June 2014.

Furthermore, the SCF elaborated on the notion of devoting itself more to the issue of the financial aspects of **Loss and Damage**, e.g. by having a dedicated agenda item at the next SCF meeting and requesting the secretariat to prepare a background paper addressing the content of the proposal brought forward earlier. However, given the rather full work plan of the SCF for the remainder of the year, it was decided to refrain from adding issues outside of the work programme of the SCF, alluding to the possibility of the COP in Lima to request this from the SCF in 2015.

To conclude the meeting, the SCF briefly discussed possible dates for the next SCF meeting. The last week of September was proposed, however many members indicated their non-availability. The co-chairs and secretariat will work on finding a suitable date in the intersessional period.

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