



Global Environment Facility

Summary of Document GEF/C.27/4

Relations with Conventions and Other Institutions

Recommended Council Decision

The Council reviewed document GEF/C.27/4, *Relations with Conventions and Other Institutions*, and welcomed the progress made in supporting the international environmental conventions and other international processes relevant to GEF's mandate.

The Council takes note, in particular, of the decisions of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, and invites the GEF Secretariat to work with the Implementing and Executing Agencies to finalize the operational program on POPs, taking fully into account the guidance approved at the first meeting of the COP. The Council also approves the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Council of the Global Environment Facility*.

The Council requests the countries and the Implementing and Executing Agencies to continue to seek opportunities to develop and implement projects consistent with the decisions of the conventions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This document reports on developments of interest to the GEF occurring since the GEF Council meeting in June 2005 within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD), and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol).

Highlights reported include:

- (a) The current status of national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including guidance provided to the GEF by the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, the results of reviews of this guidance, and progress on implementing this guidance.

- (b) Relevant decisions taken at the Second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity, serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol held in Montreal in May 2004, including adoption of a draft *Decision on Matters related to the Financial Mechanism*.
- (c) Issues addressed at the twenty-second sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in May 2005 in Bonn, Germany, including discussions of non-Annex I Parties' compilation, synthesis, and submission of national communications.
- (d) Decisions of direct relevance to the GEF made at the first Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, held in May 2005 in Uruguay, and an invitation to the Council to review and approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and the GEF Council.
- (e) Submission of the Memorandum of Understanding between the UNCCD and GEF to support collaboration with and implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, to the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, to be convened in Nairobi in October, 2005. Recommendations made at the third session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention held in Bonn, Germany in May, 2005, which focused on reviewing African Reports on the Implementation of the Convention.
- (f) Agreements made at the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, held June – July, 2005.
- (g) Brief reports submitted by the Basel Convention, and the Rotterdam Convention.
- (h) An update on the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the Development of a Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.
- (i) GEF participation in the 2005 World Summit, High Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th Session of the General Assembly.