



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF/C.61/08
November 8, 2021

61st GEF Council Meeting
December 6 – 10, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Agenda Item 11

**ASSESSMENT OF THE PILOT ON ADJUSTED CO-CHAIRING
ARRANGEMENTS**

Proposed Decision:

The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.61/08, recalls its decisions 22/2020 and 23/2020 and requests the Working Group on Governance to submit its assessment of the pilot co-chairing arrangement and options for the future, and recommendations as may be necessary, as requested in these decisions, at its 62nd meeting.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
INTRODUCTION	5
THE GEF COUNCIL AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE	5
ASSESSMENT OF THE ADJUSTED CO-CHAIRING ARRANGEMENT PILOT	6
ANNEX I: EVOLUTION OF THE GEF PARTNERSHIP	7

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Council, in its Decision 22/2020 Report of the Working Group on Governance, decided to *“Pilot for one year an adjusted co-chairing arrangement and to appoint the elected Chairperson from among its Members for the duration of one year instead of just one meeting, in order to facilitate a stronger involvement of the elected Chairperson in providing input into agenda, the chairing of the meeting and the meeting report.”*
2. It further decided that it would *“Consider at its 61st Meeting an assessment of the pilot and proposed options for the future including but not limited to recommending to amend paragraph 18 of the Governing Instrument.”*
3. The Council, in its Decision 23/2020, requested the Working Group on Governance, inter alia, to *“Follow the pilot on co-chairing arrangements and make recommendations to the Council at its 61st session as may be necessary.”*
4. The Working Group has not met during 2021. As a result, there is not yet an “assessment” from the Working Group of the pilot and proposed options for the future, and recommendations as may be necessary, as requested in Council Decisions 22/2020 and 23/2020 noted above, to form the basis for Council consideration at its 61st Session.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility, as amended by the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth GEF Assemblies, provides in Paragraph 18 that: *At each meeting, the Council shall elect a Chairperson from among its Members for the duration of that meeting. The elected Chairperson shall conduct deliberations of the Council at that meeting on issues related to Council responsibilities listed in paragraphs 20(b), (g), (i), (j) and (k). The position of elected Chairperson shall alternate from one meeting to another between recipient and non-recipient Council Members. The Chief Executive Officer of the Facility (CEO) shall conduct deliberations of the Council on issues related to Council responsibilities listed in paragraphs 20(c), (e), (f) and (h). The elected Chairperson and the CEO shall jointly conduct deliberations of the Council on issues related to paragraph 20(a).*
2. The Rules of Procedure of the Council provide in paragraphs 30 and 31 that:
 - a. *30. For purposes of this paragraph and paragraph 18 of the Instrument, the non-recipient Members shall include the Members from developed countries and the Members from countries of central and eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The Members from the group that is entitled to the position of elected Chairperson for any meeting shall nominate a Member to be elected by the Council at that meeting.*
 - b. *31. The elected Chairperson shall serve in the meeting in that capacity, without the right to vote. The Alternate to the Member elected Chairperson shall act for the Member in the meeting. If during the meeting the elected Chairperson should no longer be able to serve in that capacity, the group that is entitled to the position for such meeting shall nominate another Member to serve as elected Chairperson.*
3. The Council has followed these rules since the adoption of the Instrument. The list of Co-chairs is in Annex 1.

THE GEF COUNCIL AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON GOVERNANCE

4. At its 54th Session in June 2018, the Council adopted Decision 8/2018 whereby it established *“an Ad-hoc Working Group on Governance made up of eight Council Members or Alternates appointed by the Council to follow up on the findings of OPS6 with regard to the governance of the GEF Partnership and to make recommendations for consideration by Council to further improve efficiency, accountability and transparency.”*
5. In its decision 11/2020, adopted by mail in September of that year, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Governance till the end of December 2020.
6. In December 2020, the Ad Hoc Working Group on Governance presented its report to the Council at its 59th session. The Council adopted Decision 22/2020 whereby it decided to *“... 2) Pilot for one year an adjusted co-chairing arrangement and to appoint the elected Chairperson from among its Members for the duration of one year instead of just one meeting, in order to facilitate a stronger involvement of the elected Chairperson in providing input into agenda, the chairing of the meeting and the meeting report. 3) Consider at its 61st Meeting an assessment of the pilot and proposed options for the future including but not limited to recommending to amend paragraph 18 of the Governing Instrument.*

7. The Council followed up on this decision in April of 2021. In its Decision 3/2021, the Council “... appoints Ms. Mette Møglestue, Council Member for Denmark, Norway, Latvia and Lithuania, as the Elected Chair for the year 2021.”

THE ADJUSTED CO-CHAIRING ARRANGEMENT PILOT

8. Since her appointment as Elected Chair for the year 2021, Ms. Møglestue, and her advisor, Ms. Lauren Gisnås, have actively collaborated with the GEF CEO and the Secretariat in developing the Preliminary Agenda, Council time allocation and order of business, review of the Summary and highlights documents, as well as participation in consultations and preparations via email and virtual meetings.

9. At its 59th Meeting the Council adopted Decision 23/2020 that states: *The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.59/08/Rev.01, Report of the Working Group on Governance, further decides to extend the mandate of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Governance till June 30, 2022. The Working Group will:*

a. Monitor the implementation of the decision adopted by the Council based on the recommendations of that document and make any additional recommendations, if deemed necessary.

b. Follow the pilot on co-chairing arrangements and make recommendations to the Council at its 61st session as may be necessary.

c. Propose any additional actions that contribute to an improved and strengthened governance of the GEF partnership including accountability, transparency in programming decisions, review criteria and selection of agencies and of projects, respective roles and functions of and interaction between the GEF Assembly, GEF Council, GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies and GEF focal points.

10. The Working Group on Governance has not met during 2021. As a result, there is not yet an “assessment” from the Working Group of the pilot and proposed options for the future, and recommendations as may be necessary, as requested in Council Decisions 22/2020 and 23/2020, to form a basis for Council consideration at its 61st Session.

ANNEX I: LIST OF ELECTED CHAIRS

Meeting Date	Name	Country	Region	Developed /Developing Constituency
July 94	N.K. Singh	India	Asia	Developing
Nov 94	Lennart Bage	Sweden	Europe	Developed
Feb 95	Mathias Benedict Keah	Kenya	Africa	Developing
May 95	Hans Schipulle	Germany	Europe	Developed
July 95	Carlos Sersale	Argentina	LAC	Developing
Oct 95	Erik Fiil	Denmark	Europe	Developed
April 96	Tuiloma Neroni Slade	Samoa	Asia	Developing
Oct 96	David Turner	UK	Europe	Developed
May 97	Ould El-Ghaouth	Mauritania	Africa	Developing
Nov 97	Philippe Roch	Switzerland	Europe	Developed
April 98	John Ashe	Antigua & Barbuda	LAC	Developing
Oct 98	James Carruthers	Canada	North America	Developed
May 99	Inaamul Haque	Pakistan	Asia	Developing
Dec 99	Hans Schipulle	Germany	Europe	Developed
May 00	Victor Kouame	Cote d'Ivoire	Africa	Developing
Nov 00	Susanne Jacobsson	Sweden	Europe	Developed
May 01	Jairo Montoya	Colombia	LAC	Developing
Dec 01	Philippe Roch	Switzerland	Europe	Developed
May 02	Tuiloma Slade	Samoa	Asia	Developing
Oct 02	Adrian Davis	UK	Europe	Developed
May 03	Imeh T. Okopido	Nigeria	Africa	Developing
Nov 03	Leander Treppel	Austria	Europe	Developed
May 04	Jinkang Wu	China	Asia	Developing
Nov 04	Ludovica Soderini	Italy	Europe	Developed

June 05	Veronica Querejazu	Bolivia	LAC	Developing
Sept 05	Roger Ehrhardt	Canada	North America	Developed
Nov 05	Theophile C. Worou	Benin	Africa	Developing
June 06	Geert Aagaard Andersen	Denmark	Europe	Developed
Aug 06	Doorga Persaud	Guyana	LAC	Developing
Nov 06	Thomas Kolly	Switzerland	Europe	Developed
June 07	Dhanendra Kumar	India	Asia	Developing
Nov 07	Gerben de Jong	Netherlands	Europe	Developed
April 08	Mawaheb Aboul Azm	Egypt	Africa	Developing
Nov 08	Jan Henderson	New Zealand	Oceania	Developed
June 09	Alfred Oteng-Yeboah	Ghana	Africa	Developing
Nov 09	Asa Andrae	Sweden	Europe	Developed
May 10	Rickardo Ward	Barbados	LAC	Developing
June 10	Frank Fass-Metz	Germany	Europe	Developed
Nov 10	Javed Talat	Pakistan	Asia	Developing
May 11	Karine Siegwart	Switzerland	Europe	Developed
Nov 11	Claudia Grayeb	Mexico	LAC	Developing
Jun 12	Jozef Buys	Belgium	Europe	Developed
Nov 12	João Raimundo Lopes	Guinea-Bissau	Africa	Developing
June 13	Josceline Wheatley	U.K.	Europe	Developed
Nov 13	Margarita Perez Villaseñor	Mexico	LAC	Developing
May 14	Juha Pyykko	Finland	Europe	Developed
Oct 14	Winston Thompson	Fiji	Asia	Developing
June 15	Leander Treppel	Austria	Europe	Developed
Oct 15	Anyaa Vohiri	Liberia	Africa	Developing
June 16	Caroline Leclerc	Canada	North America	Developed
Oct 16	Carlos Raul Delgado	Mexico	LAC	Developing

May 17	Philip Knill	Germany	Europe	Developed
Nov 17	Jane Chigiyal	Micronesia	Asia	Developing
Jun 18	Peter Elder	Australia	Oceania	Developed
Dec 18	Abdul Salim	Sierra Leone	Africa	Developing
June 19	Carola van Rijnsoever	Netherlands	Europe	Developed
Dec 19	Gillian Guthrie	Jamaica	LAC	Developing
June 20	No Cochair	Virtual		
Dec 20	No Cochair	Virtual		
June 21	Mette Møglestue	Norway	Europe	Developed
Dec 21	Mette Møglestue	Norway	Europe	Developed