DRAFT TEXT
on

COP 31 agenda item 8(d)
Matters relating to finance
Report of the Global Environment Facility and guidance to the Global Environment Facility

Version 16/11/2026 0:00

Draft decision -/CP.31

Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Global Environment Facility

The Conference of the Parties,

1. *Welcomes* the GEF's achievements during this reporting period, including approval of projects collectively projected to avoid or sequester 286.4 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (taking the total to over 2.32 billion tonnes of GHG emissions mitigated for GEF-8 as a whole);

2. *Welcomes* the Bonn Consensus, which sets the programming direction for the ninth cycle of the GEF;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Draft Summary of Negotiations of the Ninth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, including the successful conclusion of the replenishment, endorsement of programming directions and allocations of resources set forth therein, the policy recommendations, and the Draft Replenishment Resolution;

4. *Welcomes* contributions to date of USD [4,5] billion with developed countries taking the lead including those made voluntarily by Parties to the Convention and *calls* for further contributions to GEF-9;

5. *Welcomes* the overachievement of 25 per cent by the GEF of its climate change target exceeding 1.85 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emission reductions under the eighth replenishment of the GEF by June 2026, as reported at the 71st meeting of its Council;

6. *Welcomes* the commitment to monitor, through the Rio Marker methodology;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the GEF to increase timely access to resources, in particular through the reduction in time taken between project identification and endorsement, and *encourages* efforts to further improve the speed, reporting, accessibility and effectiveness of support provided to developing countries;

8. *Welcomes* the GEF-9 commitment to scale up blended finance, private sector engagement and the aspirational target of programming 25 per cent of resources to mobilize private capital and *encourages* the GEF to monitor and report on progress towards these commitments through its regular reporting;

9. *Welcomes* the continued support of the LDCF and SCCF for their adaptation support, in particular to LDCs and SIDS, including stronger country-driven adaptation, NAP and GGA implementation, and long-term sustainability of outcomes;

10. *Welcomes* the enhanced support for LDCs and SIDS, including through updates to the STAR allocation process, as per the GEF-9 replenishment agreement;

11. *Welcomes* differentiated access for recently graduated LDCs and *encourages* continuity of adaptation support during transition;

12. *Welcomes* enhanced support for LDCs and SIDS under GEF-9;

13. *Welcomes* the collaboration of the GEF with the TEC and the CTCN and *welcomes* continued support for technology development and transfer, including implementation of the Belém Technology Implementation Programme;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts and steps taken towards GEF agency expansion in line with the Council decision on document GEF/C.71/05/Rev.01;

15. *Welcomes* the expanded support for Indigenous Peoples under GEF-9, and the USD 100 million allocation to support IPLCs through the Indigenous Conservation Initiative and the commitment to expand agency expertise on IPLCs, as per the GEF-9 replenishment agreement;

16. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the GEF to strengthen its engagement in fragile and conflict-affected situations, and additional measures aimed at enhancing flexibility for projects in fragile and conflict-affected situations;

17. *Notes* the report of the GEF to the Conference of the Parties at its thirty-first session, and the responses of the GEF to previous guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties;

18. *Calls upon* all contributors to GEF-9 to convert their pledges into fully fledged contributions as soon as possible;

19. *Requests* the GEF to urge contributors to GEF-8 that have not yet communicated pledges to GEF-9 to announce financial contributions to GEF-9 in line with the COP;

20. *Notes with concern* the substantial reduction of resources allocated to the climate change focal area and the programming envelope under the ninth replenishment of the GEF;

21. *Looks forward* to an ambitious replenishment of the SCCF in 2026, including a pledging event, building on the current momentum to increase efforts to enhance access to finance for SIDS and LDCs;

22. *Invites* the GEF to strengthen the scale, predictability and sustainability of resource mobilization for the LDCF, including through enhanced multi-year pledging arrangements, improved coordination among contributors and proactive engagement with potential new contributors, with a view to mobilizing at least USD 1.3 billion for the Fund over the GEF-9 period, consistent with the level envisaged under Scenario B of the GEF-9 Programming Strategy, while maintaining the grant-based nature and quality of LDCF support and ensuring that efforts to broaden the contributor base complement and do not substitute for contributions from sovereign contributors, and to report on progress in this regard;

23. *Encourages* the GEF to continue implementing streamlining and access reforms agreed under GEF-8 and in the GEF-9 replenishment agreement to ensure that accelerated and simplified project modalities preserve country ownership, nationally determined priorities and the effective role of operational focal points in programming and project prioritization;

24. *Requests* the Council to continue monitoring and reporting measurable reductions in project-cycle processing times and the implementation and effectiveness of LDCs' access arrangements under GEF-9;

25. *Requests* the GEF to improve the project cycle, accreditation and operational efficiency and to reduce transaction costs consistent with the GEF-9 Policy Directions;

26. *Reaffirms* that country platforms and climate finance roundtables supported by the GEF remain voluntary, country-led, established and governed according to national circumstances and priorities;

27. *Encourages* the GEF to strengthen the role and the capacities of the operational focal points to enhance country-drivenness and ensure the effective implementation of the GEF's whole-of-government/society approach including in hard-to-reach areas;

28. *Requests* the GEF to enhance transparency and predictability in the programming of and access to the LDCF by providing regular information on project submissions, technical clearance and approval status, the rationale for project prioritization and support, available resources and utilization of country access caps, with such information presented, as appropriate, on a country-disaggregated basis for LDCs;

29. *Notes with concern* that resources available for new approvals under the Facility's dedicated adaptation funds are severely constrained, preventing the approval of technically cleared projects for developing country Parties, *urges* developed country Parties to take the lead and *encourages* developing country Parties to make contributions on a voluntary basis;

30. *Requests* the GEF to take measures to increase its funding in underserved regions and sub-regions and to include in its annual report information on the distribution of its climate change resources disaggregated by region and sub-region;

31. *Requests* the GEF to ensure that its support for technology development and transfer is technology neutral and responsive to the priorities identified by developing country Parties;

32. *Requests* the GEF to strengthen capacity-building for GEF operational focal points and implementing agencies;

33. *Encourages* the GEF to enhance support for projects and programmes that contribute to ocean-based climate action;

34. *Requests* the GEF to include in its annual reports to the Conference of the Parties, starting at its thirty-second session, information on the financial resources approved and disbursed for ocean-related support that contributes to ocean-based climate action;

35. *Recommends* taking a prudential approach in terms of mobilizing additional financing from the private sector through blended finance mechanisms and enhancing the use of the Non-Grant Instrument window and *emphasizes* the importance of grant-based or highly concessional finance and non-debt-creating instruments for developing countries;

36. *Encourages* the GEF to provide an update on progress in implementing the recommendations of GEF Council decision 24/2020;

37. *Encourages* the GEF to support Indigenous-led project development, implementation, and monitoring where appropriate;

38. *Requests* the GEF to support the effective implementation of the updated UNFCCC Gender Action Plan across its policies, programmes and investments;

39. *Encourages* efforts to further strengthen the complementarity and coherence between the multilateral climate funds, MDBs and other actors across the climate and nature finance architecture, including with a view to sharing lessons and identifying approaches that can improve the delivery of climate finance to countries affected by conflict and fragility;

40. *Urges* the Council to ensure that initiatives aimed at enhancing complementarity and coherence with other multilateral climate funds simplify access for recipient countries, avoid duplication of procedures and additional coordination requirements, and do not create new conditions or restrict access to GEF resources or reduce the availability of finance to developing countries;

41. *Requests* the GEF, in implementing the aspirational target of approximately 10 per cent of LDCF and SCCF programming resources for investments that advance complementarity and coherence with other multilateral climate funds, to provide information on the investments counted towards the target;

42. *Takes note* of decision X/CMA.8 and *decides* to transmit to the GEF the guidance from the CMA contained in paragraphs X–Y of that decision.[1]

[1] In accordance with decision 1/CP.21, para. 61.

DRAFT TEXT
on
CMA 8 agenda item 11(c)
Matters relating to finance
Guidance to the Global Environment Facility

Version 16/11/2026 0:00

Draft decision -/CMA.8
Guidance to the Global Environment Facility

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,

1. *Recommends* that the COP at its thirty-first session transmit to the GEF the guidance contained in paragraphs X–Y below;[1]

2. *Welcomes* the initial replenishment amount of USD 3.9 billion for GEF-9, and *welcomes* the new contributions to date including those made voluntarily by developing countries;

3. *Welcomes* that the set-aside for support for reporting, including the CBIT, has been maintained for GEF-9 compared to GEF-8 levels;

4. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the GEF, through the LDCF and the SCCF, to support the implementation of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience;

5. *Welcomes* the GEF's continued support for projects that build institutional and technical capacity at national level to meet the provisions of the enhanced transparency framework and *encourages* the GEF to support the uptake by Parties to make use of the available resources during the GEF-9 period;

6. *Requests* the GEF to urge contributors to GEF-8 that have not yet communicated pledges to GEF-9 to announce financial contributions to GEF-9 in line with the CMA;

7. *Requests* the GEF to strengthen its efforts to enhance efficient and effective access to the Fund and *further requests* the GEF to eliminate conditionalities for accessing climate finance for all developing countries;

8. *Requests* the GEF to ensure that the 12 per cent of country allocations under the STAR directed to the special window on blended finance is deducted only with the consent of the developing country Party, and that participation in the window does not displace the public, grant-based and highly concessional resources referred to in paragraph 14 of decision 1/CMA.6 and paragraph 49 of decision 1/CMA.7;

9. *Encourages* efforts to further improve the speed, reporting, accessibility and effectiveness of support provided to developing countries;

10. *Requests* the GEF to support developing country Parties in implementing the GGA, including in relation to water scarcity, drought and land degradation, taking into account the call in paragraph 53 of decision 1/CMA.7 for efforts to at least triple adaptation finance by 2035;

11. *Notes with concern* that the notional allocation for the CBIT under the ninth replenishment is lower than the resources provided under the eighth replenishment;

12. *Encourages* the GEF to implement adaptive modalities and procedures for its CBIT and Enabling Activity project approvals;

[1] In accordance with decision 1/CP.21, para. 61.

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the distinctive role of the GEF within the wider financial architecture in delivering climate objectives, including the relevant outcomes agreed in the NCQG;

14. *Requests* the GEF to include in its annual report information on how relevant elements of decision 1/CMA.6 are being operationalized through GEF-9.