Summary from 1 November 2013

On Friday, November 1st, 2013, the second day of the 22nd meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) concluded after addressing the few remaining items on the agenda. These included, inter alia, the official presentations by the trustee (the World Bank) on the financial status of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund, as well as the secretariat on the current status of the pipeline. According to the trustee, as of September 30th, 2013, USD 342 million have been received on part by proceeds of sales of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) and contributions by donor countries. Considering previous funding decisions of approx. USD 190 million and operational costs of the Adaptation Fund (AF), thus brings available resources for future resource allocation to amount to 117 million. Due to the fact that the funding window for projects by Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIEs) has already been exhausted (limited to 50% of total resources received), the approved and fully developed project proposal by the World Food Programme on behalf of Nepal was added to the MIE pipeline that has now grown to eight projects - requesting a total of around USD 58 million.

Building on this presentation, the Board exchanged views on options for funding the MIE pipeline. These where based on the report by the chair of the Fund’s Project and Project Review Committee (PPRC), where the issue was also touched upon. After some discussion, which also entailed deliberations of closing the MIE pipeline to future MIE proposals or even allowing for a temporary loosening of the 50/50 cap, the Board decided to request the secretariat to develop a document analysing the implications that would result from each of the proposed options, also incorporating intersessional comments and reflections by Board members and alternates.

Following this rather political discussion, the secretariat presented new information and outreach material as part of the AF’s communication strategy, especially in light of the upcoming Conference of the Parties (COP) in Warsaw where the AF will maintain a booth to display its materials. Building on this, the secretariat gave a brief overview of the activities of the AF during the COP, particularly alluding to the AF side-event on Friday, November 15th, 2013 titled “Adaptation Stories: Lessons Learned”. The parting chair of the AF, Mr Hans-Olav Ibrekk will deliver the mandatory report of the AF to the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) on Tuesday, November 12th, 2013.

Finally, the Board concluded the meeting by electing new officials of its Committees and its Accreditation Panel, as well as its Chair and Vice-Chair. Accordingly, the Board selected Mr. Mamadou Honadia (Burkina Faso) as the new Chair of the AF Board, Ms. Su-Lin Garbett-Shiels (United Kingdom)
as Chair of the Ethics and Finance Committee (EFC), Ms. Angela Churie-Kallhauge (Sweden) as Chair of the Accreditation Panel (AP) and Mr. Philip Weech (Bahamas) as Vice-Chair of the AP. Following the ninth session of the CMP in Warsaw, the remaining officials will be elected intersessionally.

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Contact: www.c-fas.net and queries@c-fas.net