

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Fourteenth Meeting of the Donor Council
World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC
10 November 2008
2 p.m. – 5 p.m. EST

Follow Up to Decisions Taken at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Donor Council

List of Follow-up Actions from the Thirteenth Meeting:

1. The Secretariat and Japan will discuss the opportunity represented by Japan hosting the Tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), with an emphasis on the preparatory meetings in 2009, to raise awareness of CEPF in Japan. The Secretariat also will make available the information about CEPF in Japanese developed by GEF and consider whether other activities could take place this year.

As reported on as part of the Executive Director's Report on Progress (Agenda Item #5), the Executive Director traveled in September 2008 to Japan, where discussions at an informal level with representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of the Environment also included this opportunity represented by Japan hosting CBD 10. The Communications Plan for CEPF's Tenth Anniversary (Agenda Item #6), also to take place in 2010, focuses on this opportunity as well and was discussed with the Working Group, including the representatives for Japan, in October 2008. The Secretariat made available the information about CEPF in Japanese developed by GEF and distributed several hundred copies at the Alternative G8 Summit held by Japanese nongovernmental organizations 6-9 July 2008 in parallel with the G8 Summit in Hokkaido, Japan. The biodiversity session within the Alternative Summit was attended by more than 100 citizens, as well as several key legislators. Conservation International's Country Director for Ghana gave a keynote address in which he spoke about how CEPF support has benefitted the people and biodiversity of the region. This year, during his September visit to Japan, the Executive Director also gave a presentation about CEPF at the Sixteenth Environment Congress for Asia and the Pacific (ECO Asia 2008) hosted by the Ministry of the Environment for Japan in the city of Nagoya.

2. The World Bank will formally invite Mr. Wolfensohn to join the Council on behalf of the World Bank and to become the Chairperson at the invitation of the Council.
The World Bank formally invited Mr. Wolfensohn to join the Donor Council on behalf of the World Bank and to assume the role of Chairperson at the invitation of the Council. Mr. Wolfensohn has accepted the invitation and will begin his new role as Chairperson at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Donor Council to be held on 10 November 2008.
3. The Secretariat will closely monitor the cost of profiling and advise the Council if any difficulties arise. The Secretariat also will monitor audit-related costs.
As part of completing the new Terms of Reference for the CEPF External Audit submitted for the Donor Council's review and approval, the Secretariat has identified unexpected annual costs of \$40,000-\$60,000 necessary to cover the expanded Terms of Reference. This expansion is the result of conditions for the new GEF financing to include compliance with certain provisions of the CEPF Financing Agreement and the related internal controls. As these costs are beyond the expenses originally planned during CEPF budget development and CEPF is managing at a capped level of operational expenses, Agenda Item #9 includes a

request for the use of interest earned from the CEPF Bank Account to pay for the compliance testing part of the audit costs each year, and for the compliance-specific costs to be considered as a budget item separate from the operational expenses of the Fund.

4. The Secretariat will provide more information to the Council about Conservation International's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business (CELB), and explore the possibility of a meeting at the introduction of the Acting Chairperson between CELB and IFC to share best practices.

The Secretariat has provided an information package about CELB to the Council and has started discussions with CELB about a potential meeting at the introduction of Kathy Sierra, Vice President for Sustainable Development at the World Bank, between CELB and the International Finance Corporation. Several CELB staff worked closely with IFC when it updated its policy on critical habitats and also in developing selected projects. The program would welcome greater sharing of information and collaboration with IFC. The Secretariat will be in contact with Ms. Sierra in the near future to follow up on the possibility of a meeting at her introduction between CELB and IFC to share best practices.

5. The Secretariat will organize the next meeting of the Council to take place on 10 November 2008, contingent on Mr. Wolfensohn's availability.

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Donor Council is confirmed to take place on 10 November 2008.