

**Paris Committee on Capacity-building
Second Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 5 May 2018**

Structured dialogue between the PCCB and the representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and other constituted bodies

Statement from the Global Environment Facility (read by Milena Gonzalez Vasquez)

Good morning colleagues. First of all, let me congratulate the new Chairs in their election. Thank you for the invitation to participate in this Second Meeting of the PCCB. We look forward to the discussions over the next couple of days and further collaboration.

The Global Environment Facility appreciates the opportunity to provide an update on relevant capacity-building work over the last year. As an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the GEF supports developing country Parties with their capacity-building needs through different avenues, including through capacity-building activities integrated in mitigation and adaptation projects, our long-standing support for enabling activities, and most recently through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency or CBIT.

Earlier this year, the GEF submitted information on our support for capacity-building activities through the capacity-building portal. We uploaded information on 162 activities from 69 climate change mitigation and 13 adaptation projects for the 2017 calendar year. This capacity-building support amounted to \$166.2 million in grant resources from the GEF Trust Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and the CBIT Trust Fund, spanning 13 of the 15 priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries identified in decision 2/CP.7. In particular, GEF projects supported: institutional capacity building, enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment, development and transfer of technology, and the preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports.

To date, the GEF has supported 150 countries with 447 National Communications and 121 countries with a 152 Biennial Update Reports. In addition, the GEF has supported the Global Support Program, jointly implemented by UNDP and UN Environment in collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention to provide additional technical guidance and backstopping for the development of these reports, including through training and sharing of best practices on GHG inventories and IPCC guidelines, vulnerability and adaptation, as well as mitigation assessments, and incorporating gender responsiveness into these reports. The Global Support Program has also supported the establishment of new south-south communities of practice in Latin America, West Africa and a Portuguese-speaking cluster on MRV and inventories.

Under the CBIT, the GEF has acted swiftly to establish and operationalize the CBIT per the Paris Agreement decision and has supported to date 22 projects with \$28.5 million in grant resources. These include 20 national projects across Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, including 6 LDCs and 2 SIDS. Already, 5 of these CBIT projects have begun implementation. In addition, we have received 30 additional proposals, representing a total of over 50 countries that are committed to improving their capacity to meet the enhanced transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement. By the end of June, we expect to program all available resources in the CBIT Trust Fund, which will approximately amount to \$24 million additional resources. We very much appreciate the generous support by fifteen donors, who pledged over \$61 million to the CBIT Trust Fund during the sixth GEF replenishment phase.

Just last week, we had our second Global Coordination Meeting for the CBIT in Berlin, where many of these countries, along with other transparency and relevant initiatives with whom we are coordinating, including the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the Coalition on Paris Agreement Capacity Building, the International Partnership for Transparency in the Paris Agreement, and the NDC Partnership, shared lessons learned, identified common approaches to existing challenges and discussed areas for enhanced coordination, particularly through the CBIT Global Coordination platform. The Global Coordination Platform incorporates these offline or face-to-face meetings as well as an online platform that aims to enable coordination; identify needs and gaps in national transparency systems; share lessons learned through regional and global meetings; and facilitate access to emerging practices, methodologies, and guidance on transparency of climate action.

Each CBIT project is country-driven and reflects national priorities, but we have seen they share a common thread of: responding to the Paris Agreement transparency requirements set forth in Article 13; aligning with nationally determined contributions and addressing identified capacity and institutional needs; focusing on longer-term capacity needs; and helping to inform national policy development, planning and decision-making processes based on more sound and timely data. Some projects also seek to facilitate transparency of support to enable countries keep to track of climate finance flows.

The seventh GEF replenishment process will conclude this June and the CBIT is included as an integral part of climate change support. This and more detailed information can be found on our website and will be communicated to the Convention on our annual report to the COP.

We look forward to continuing to coordinate our support and actively engage with the PCCB and its different working groups as it advances on the implementation of the 2017-2019 workplan, including on sharing information and linkages on our various capacity-building work and on cross-cutting issues such as gender and indigenous peoples, areas under which the GEF has recently adopted new policies and established new partnerships.

Thank you, Chairs.