



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.19/34
20 September 2016

Project and Programme Review Committee
Nineteenth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 4-5 October 2016

**INTERSESSIONAL REVIEW OF GRANTS FOR PROJECTS UNDER THE
READINESS PROGRAMME**

1. At its twenty-second meeting the Board had set aside funding from the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund resources for subsequent commitment and transfer at the instruction of the Board¹ to enhance capacities for accreditation and capacities to comply with the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP). The Board has made this funding available through small grants under the Readiness Programme.
2. The secretariat received proposals for readiness grants in October 2015. The readiness grant proposals had been fairly simple and straightforward, and did not necessarily require in-session discussion. To avoid having to wait until the March 2016 meeting, it was suggested that it would be beneficial if the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) could recommend to the Board to allow the review and approval of those proposals intersessionally. At its twenty-sixth meeting, the Board decided to:

Request the secretariat to review intersessionally, between the 26th and 27th meetings of the Board, proposals submitted by National Implementing Entities for technical assistance grants and South-South cooperation grants under the Readiness Programme, and to submit the reviews to the PPRC for intersessional recommendation to the Board.

(Decision B. 26/28)

3. Following the successful review by the secretariat and approval by the Board of technical assistance grants and South-South cooperation grants under the Readiness Programme intersessionally, the Board, at its twenty-seventh meeting had institutionalized the Readiness Programme and set aside funding for direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund for allocation as small grants. At this meeting, the Board decided to:

- a) *Take note of the progress report for phase II of the Readiness Programme;*
- b) *Integrate the Readiness Programme into the Adaptation Fund work plan and budget; and*
- c) *Approve the proposal for the Readiness Programme for the fiscal year 2017 (FY17), comprising its work programme for FY17 with the funding of US\$ 616,500 to be transferred to the secretariat budget and US\$ 590,000 for direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund for allocation as small grants.*

(Decision B.27/38)

4. Following Decision B.27/38 by the Board, the secretariat had launched a call for proposals for grants under the Readiness Programme in July 2016. The secretariat received a total of thirteen applications for readiness grants for review as follows:

- Two proposals for South-South cooperation grants to support NIE accreditation
- Seven proposals for a technical assistance grant to strengthen NIE capacity to comply with the Fund's ESP and Gender Policy
- Four proposals for a technical assistance grant to strengthen NIE capacity to align existing environmental and social safeguards with the Fund's gender policy.

¹ Decision B.22/24

5. The proposals remain fairly simple and straightforward, and in order to avoid overburdening the agenda of the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) at its regular meetings, and to also manage the workload of the secretariat between successive reviews for projects and programmes, the secretariat could review the applications for decision by the Board intersessionally as was done between the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh meetings.
6. Since the Board had at its twenty-seventh meeting, integrated the Readiness Programme into the Fund's work plan and budget, it is foreseen that the secretariat would continue to receive readiness grant proposals, and there is need for continued review and approval of such readiness grants intersessionally and annually. Therefore the PPRC may want to recommend to the Board to:
- a) Request the secretariat to continue to review readiness grant proposals annually, during an intersessional period of less than 24 weeks between two consecutive Board meetings;
 - b) Notwithstanding the request in paragraph (a) above, recognize that any readiness grant proposal can be submitted to regular meetings of the Board;
 - c) Request the PPRC to consider intersessionally the technical review of such readiness grant proposals as prepared by the secretariat and to make intersessional recommendations to the Board;
 - d) Consider such intersessionally reviewed proposals for intersessional approval in accordance with the Rules of Procedure; and
 - e) Request the secretariat to present, in the twentieth meeting of the PPRC, and annually following each intersessional review cycle, an analysis of the intersessional review cycle.