

**Funding Task Force – Minutes of first teleconference, 15 June 2016**

Teleconference Participants:

Ms. Sara Aagesen, Facilitator	Ms. Marina Shvangiradze, AB member
Mr. Jürg Grütter, AB member	Mr. Victor Low, CTCN
Mr. Kazuhiko Hombu, AB member	Mr. Scott Willis, CTCN
Ian Lloyd, observer Party	Mr. Manfredi Caltagirone, CTCN
Mr. David Reidmiller, observer Party	

Regrets:

Mr. Samuel Adeoye Adejuwon, Mr. Fred Onduri

Ms. Sara Aagesen, facilitator of the Funding task force, welcomed all task force members to their first teleconference. A summary of discussions and action items follows.

**Agenda Item 1 – Review of Terms of Reference**

- The Terms of Reference as originally developed at the CTCN's 7<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board meeting were reviewed by the task force. No comments were raised regarding the need for revisions to the Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference of the funding task force were deemed relevant and remained unchanged.

**Agenda Item 2 – Recap of CTCN funding mobilisation strategy and outreach to date**

- Based on information shared previously with the Advisory Board, the CTCN's funding shortfall stood at USD 37 million for the 2016/2017 biennium. The CTCN has continued moving forward on its funding mobilization strategy of reaching out to new and existing bilateral donors, multilateral donors including the Financial Mechanism, and the private sector.
- Funding activities and updates included:
  - Additional funding expected from the European Commission and Japan.
  - Engagement of Switzerland in funding discussions.
  - Discussions with the United States for additional funding.
  - Recap of USD 1.8 million contribution from GEF5. GEF6 had no set aside for CTCN related activities so only STAR allocations were available but challenging to access. Similar to GEF5, if there are unspent funds from GEF6, there is a possibility for CTCN to seek these unspent funds.
  - Targeting the GCF Readiness Programme. CTCN continues to engage with the GCF with the CTCN Director attending the GCF's June board meeting and CTCN on the agenda of the GCF's October board meeting.
- An Annex I NDE meeting was held on the sidelines of SB44 in Bonn. Main outcome of the meeting was a suggestion on how the CTCN can help NDEs help the CTCN by highlighting the benefits and impacts of CTCN technical assistance through case studies of CTCN impacts and the preparation of related promotional materials.

**Agenda Item 3 – Discussion and brainstorming of funding strategies**

Summary of discussion:

- Options for CTCN engagement with the GCF were discussed by the task force. The following were the key points:
  - The GCF will not fund the CTCN secretariat so any GCF funding approach should focus on funding for substantive CTCN activities.
  - To target a larger sum for CTCN technical assistance, a bundle of CTCN requests was considered but deemed to be logistically challenging.
  - The Readiness Programme was considered to be the most likely option. With an inherent limit of USD 1 million per year per country, this programme falls in line with the linkages that are being sought between the CTCN and the GCF. This approach also has the potential to unlock further GCF funding for larger country projects.
  - The process for the Project Preparation Facility is not as well established and was not considered further at this time.
- Funding opportunities from the private sector were explored. Feedback from CTCN experience to date on its stakeholder engagement activities indicated that most interest from the private sector is in contributing to specific activities such as workshops or on an in-kind basis.
- Network members as a funding source was also discussed. In particular, the option of membership fees that was raised at the CTCN's 7<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board meeting. Fees were considered a hindrance to the CTCN's attempt to expand its technical capabilities through its Network membership. Task force members with close links to Network members confirmed that fees indeed would discourage organizations from becoming Network members.
- One challenge to CTCN funding that was emphasized was the CTCN's lack of targeted communications and outreach. CTCN is viewed as technology only but could be portrayed more broadly to include capacity building, linkages to NDCs, and prominently highlighting adaptation and mitigation. Guidance could be prepared on how CTCN technical assistance can result in proposals to funding mechanisms such as the GCF (i.e., CTCN services leading to bankable projects).
- It was suggested that Government Party representatives convey the need to support the CTCN to their colleagues who have an influence on funding matters, including the Financial Mechanism of the Convention.
- Consideration was also given to the merits of combining the Funding Task Force with the Visibility Task Force.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Next steps**

The task force agreed to have its next teleconference in the latter half of July as well as potentially having an in-person meeting on the side of the 8<sup>th</sup> Advisory Board meeting of the CTCN.