



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 6 March 2012

6835/12

ENV	141
ONU	20
DEVGEN	43
ECOFIN	187
ENER	69
FORETS	17
MAR	17
AVIATION	33

NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations

Subject: Nominations of the board of Green Climate Fund under UNFCCC
- Information from the Presidency

Delegations will find annexed an information note from the Presidency on the above subject, which will be dealt with under "other business" at the Council meeting (Environment) on 9 March 2012.

**Nominations for Green Climate Fund
- Information from the Presidency -**

Background

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was launched at the Durban Climate Conference (COP17) and Parties were invited to submit nominations for the position of member and alternate member of the Board who will serve on the Board of the GCF for a term of three years. The agreed composition of the Board is 12 members from developing country Parties and 12 members from developed country Parties. Nominations should be sent to the interim secretariat of the Green Climate Fund no later than 31st March 2012.

The Green Climate Fund is an important part of the Durban outcome and a result of several years of negotiations. The EU welcomes the approval of the governing instrument for the Green Climate Fund and the way forward outlined in the Durban decisions with regard to the expeditious and full operationalisation of the GCF. The GCF is to make a significant and ambitious contribution to the global efforts towards attaining the goals set by the international community to combat climate change.

The new Board of the GCF will play an important role to ensure that the GCF will promote a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development paths by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change in developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The Board will need to ensure that the Fund will catalyse climate finance, both public and private, and at the international and national level.

Finally, the Board needs to develop methods to enhance complementarity between the GCF and other relevant bilateral, regional and global funding mechanisms and institutions, to better mobilise the full range of financial and technical capacities and improve the overall effectiveness of international climate finance.

The EU played a leading role in the negotiations in Durban, and the Presidency believes it is important to continue to do so in all stages of the follow-up to the decisions taken at COP17.

Nominations for the Board of GCF

There are a total of 12 seats for developed country Parties. The EU can realistically expect 6 or 7 seats. At this stage, the Presidency has received indications of 13 candidates from EU Member States and the Commission.

Given what precedes, an agreement needs to be found among the Union and its Member States on the candidates which will represent them in the Board. The aim of the Presidency is to facilitate such an agreement.

The aim of the Presidency is to find a pragmatic solution for the distribution of seats taking the following elements into account: *Firstly* a political commitment to provide funding to the GCF, provided the fund is set up in the manner expected; *secondly* the seniority of the proposed candidates; *thirdly* broad willingness, as reflected in various UNFCCC forums, to contemplate the division of Member/Alternate Member amongst different entities; *fourthly* priority for those Member States, not obtaining a seat, to have representation on the Standing Committee.

The Presidency will inform the Environment Council of the process of finding nominations for the Board in order to ensure transparency on principles for further work, and to give delegations a chance to react if they foresee difficulties.