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5 March 2024

NOTIFICATION
First programming tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Protocols that the decisions of the first Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) Council meeting, which convened on 8 and 9 February 2024 in Washington, D.C., have enabled the start of programming under the GBFF.

Notably, the GBFF Council decided to allocate resources through discrete programming tranches to improve predictability for recipient countries, while accommodating financial contributions on a rolling basis. The adoption of the GBFF Resource Allocation Policy triggered the opening of the first GBFF programming tranche, which is making \$211 million available for programming. This amount corresponds to all pledges confirmed by the GBFF Trustee at the date of the Policy approval, which include the pledges from Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Japan and Spain, minus the corporate budget needs that were approved by the Council.

Within programming tranches, all GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive selection rounds open to all eligible countries. Eligible countries have thus been invited, through a notification from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat to all GEF Operational Focal Points, to participate in the first two selection rounds that have been opened from 21 February to 1 March 2024 and from 4 March to 1 April 2024, respectively.

We encourage all eligible countries to make full use of this opportunity to strengthen their implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

To support this, a virtual briefing session for the national focal points of the CBD and its Protocols will be organized jointly by the CBD and GEF Secretariats on Friday, 8 March 2024 from 8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. EST. The link to join the virtual briefing is [here](#).

Please note that the GEF Secretariat organized virtual briefing sessions for the GEF Operational Focal Points and GEF Agencies during the week of 19 February 2024. Recording of those sessions is available on the GEF website at <https://www.thegef.org/events/briefing-sessions-global-biodiversity-framework-fund>. In addition, an in-person briefing session was carried out on 29 February 2024 at the margins of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Claude Gascon (cgascon@thegef.org), Director of Strategy and Operations, and Ms. Chizuru Aoki (caoki@thegef.org), GBFF Manager, at the GEF Secretariat.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of our highest consideration.

(signed) David Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity

(signed) Carlos Manuel Rodríguez
CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility

To: CBD national focal points, ABS focal points, Cartagena Protocol focal points