



FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION
5 – 10 November 2012
Yokohama, Japan

**REPORT OF THE PANEL
ON SUB-ACCOUNT B OF THE BALI PARTNERSHIP FUND
AT ITS EIGHTEENTH MEETING**

[Item 20(b) of the Provisional Agenda]

1. The Panel on Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund was established by Decision 4(XXX) for the management of Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.
2. The Panel was chaired by the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance and Administration, Dr. Atsushi Suginaka of Japan, and composed of:
 - (a) Three consuming member representatives that are main contributors to the BPF:
 - (i) Mr. Shigeto Ikeda (Japan);
 - (ii) Dr. James K. Gasana (Switzerland); and
 - (iii) Dr. Charles Barber (U.S.A.).
 - (b) Three producing member representatives, one from each geographic region:
 - (i) Mr. Mario Rafael Rodríguez Palma (Guatemala) – Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - (ii) Mr. Ngo'o Bitomo Adrian (Cameroon) – Africa; and
 - (iii) Dr. Norini Haron (Malaysia) – Asia-Pacific.
 - (c) The Executive Director:
Mr. Emmanuel Ze Meka
3. The Panel held its Meeting on Wednesday, 7 November 2012 during the Forty-eighth Session of the Council.
4. The Secretariat introduced the working document to the Members of the Panel which contained a copy of the Decision 4(XXX) – Management of Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund; the reports of the Panel held at earlier Sessions of the Council, and information regarding the financial status of the Bali Partnership Fund. Attention of the members was also drawn to the list of Projects, Pre-Projects and Activities funded which indicated the current status of these with a view to assist the review and monitoring of their implementation.
5. The Secretariat informed the Panel that as of the end of the Forty-seventh Session of the Council, forty-five Activities (including Activities for the biennial work programme), five Pre-Projects and five Projects had been approved for financing through the resources of Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.
6. As of 30 October 2012, the total funds received in the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund since its establishment, amount to US\$19.40 million that had all been allocated. The estimated available fund balance as of 31 December 2012, amount to US\$NIL.

7. The Secretariat added that the Council, at its Thirty-fifth Session in November 2003, approved the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and Administration to expand the scope of work of the Panel on the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund to oversee the allocation of resources from the "Unearmarked Funds" in the Special Account as an interim measure.

8. The Secretariat further informed that the current estimated funds available in the "Unearmarked Funds" as of 31 December 2012, amount to US\$15,626.00 after taking into account the total allocations of US\$13.36 million, made by the previous Sessions held from November 2003 to November 2011.

9. The Panel took note of the ongoing work on the various Pre-Projects, Projects and Activities; and was dismayed at the unavailability of funds for continuing with some fundamental activities of the Organization during 2013 that have been funded through these sources, and urged that in the meantime, these could be funded through the voluntary contributions during 2013, as indicated in the proposed Biennial Work Programme for 2013-2014.

10. Following the deliberations made at the Committee on Finance and Administration, the Panel noted the urge from members to hold two meetings of the Expert Panel on Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals each calendar year. While the Biennial Work Programme considered at this Session for 2013-2014 initially proposed to hold only one Expert Panel meeting per year during the years 2013 and 2014 as cost-saving measures, the Panel decided that even partial funds allocated to hold a second meeting would encourage other sources to co-finance this Activity. During the session of the Council, a working group was convened to formulate a revised budget for holding two meetings of the Expert Panel for Project Appraisal per year. The revised budget will be submitted to the Council for approval and amendment to the proposed Biennial Work Programme for 2013-2014.

11. Taking into consideration the amount of US\$15,626.00 being insufficient to undertake any activity, the Panel recommends to the Council that this amount be utilized to defray part of the cost of holding the second meeting of the Expert Panel on Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals.

12. The Panel emphasized the necessity to revive the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund, and decided to hold further discussions at the next meeting of the Panel, to seek measures in order to attract more resources to this fund. The Panel requested the Secretariat to identify and elaborate the priority target areas of the projects and activities to be funded from the Bali Partnership Fund, with a view to distinguish from other funding mechanisms such as the Thematic Programmes and the regular Project Cycle.

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