GLOBAL CARBON COUNCIL

Coordination Meeting Report 2023

Advisory Board, Steering and Regulatory Committees Meeting

V1.0 – 2023

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Agenda item 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Agenda item 1.1.   Opening of the Meeting

1.   Dr. Yousef Alhorr, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Global Carbon Council (GCC) (hereinafter referred to as the Board), opened the meeting and welcomed members of Advisory Board, Steering Committee and Regulatory Committee at their joint coordination meeting held in Doha, Qatar.

2.   The Board noted that Mr. Justin Mundy, John Kilani and Yosouf Abdulrahman were unable to attend the meeting.

Agenda item 2. INTRODUCTION OF THE MEMBERS

Agenda item 2.1.   Introduction of Advisory Board, Steering Committee and Regulatory Committee Members

3.   The table below presents the attendance of members of the Advisory Board, Steering Committee, and Regulatory Committee. Those present virtually are indicated in italics.

Advisory Board	Steering Committee	Regulatory Committee
Prof. Mariam Al- Maadeed	**Dr. Felix Dayo**	**Dr. Ayşe Frey**
Mr. Saurabh Kumar	**Mr. Ambachew F. Admassie**	**Mr. Ambachew F. Admassie**
Mr. Syed Ovais Sarmad	**Dr. Ricardo Esparta**	**Mr. Jean-Jacques Becker**
Mr. Massamba Thioye	**Dr. Hyun Jung Park**	**Mr. Thomas Bosse**
Mr. Erik Solheim	**Mr. Anil Jauhri**	**Mr. Vinay Deodhar**
Mr. Simon Henry	**Mr. David Neil Bird**	**Mr. Werner Betzenbichler**
	Mr. Braulio Pikman	**Mr. Daniel Perczyk**
	Ms. Anastasia Northland	**Mr. Jiajing Zhao**
	Ms. Lucy Naydenova	**Mr. Abhishek Goyal**
	Mr. Abdulla Amjad	*Ms. Carolyn Luce*
		Mr. Braulio Pikman

Agenda item 3. INTRODUCTION TO GCC PROGRAM

Agenda item 3.1.   GCC Program Overview

4.   The GCC Operations Team presented the overview of the GCC governance structure.

Agenda item 3.2.   GCC Milestones, Achievements, and Outcomes

5.   The GCC Operations Team presented the milestones achieved to date including the development of international carbon market standard/program, which is eligible to supply emission reduction units for compliance under the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

6.   The GCC program received about 1500 projects from over 40 countries. The projects are expected to reduce about 2 billion tons CO_2eq of GHG emissions by 2030.

Agenda item 4. GCC WORK PLAN

Agenda item 4.1.   GCC Work Plan 2023-2024

7.   The GCC Operations Team presented the draft GCC Work Plan 2023-2024 reflecting the priority areas, projects, regulatory and methodological workstreams.

8.   The GCC Advisory Board noted the importance of further simplification, streamlining and optimization of the GCC workstreams, and agreed to continue consideration of the work plan using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 5. GCC ROLE IN ARTICLE 6 IMPLEMENTATION

Agenda item 5.1.   GCC Role in Article 6.2 Implementation

9.   The GCC Operations Team informed about GCC's readiness to support the implementation and operationalization of cooperative approaches under Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement. The cooperation with National Environment Agency of Singapore was highlighted, and it was noted that GCC may approach relevant institutions in other countries with respect to capacity building, standard setting, registry linking and issuance of ITMO-eligible carbon units.

10.   The GCC Advisory Board noted the progress achieved by GCC and the importance of contacting the NDC national focal points of countries in the Global South.

Agenda item 5.2.   Sustainable Development under Article 6.8

11.   A member of the Advisory Board presented the framework for non-market approaches under Article 6.8 and the related role of the UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub. In particular, important elements contained in decision 8/CMA.4 were presented and explained. In exchange of views that followed, the possibility of GCC's collaboration with UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub was highlighted.

Agenda item 6. COMMUNICATION STRATERGY

Agenda item 6.1.   Communication & Outreach to Enhance the GCC Marketplace

12.   The GCC Operations Team presented several options for enhancing GCC's position at the GHG global marketplace. The GCC governance bodies noted the importance of including elements of public interaction in the development of GCC's communication strategy.

Agenda item 6.2.   GCC Communication Strategy

13.   The GCC Operations Team presented a draft plan for a comprehensive communication and outreach strategy for 2023-24. The GCC governance bodies pointed out the importance of the strategy for the future development of GCC.

Agenda item 7.   GCC AS AN ACTOR IN THE GLOBAL CARBON MARKET

Agenda item 7.1   Quality Assurance in Registration & Issuance Process

14.   The GCC Operations Team presented to the Regulatory Committee and Steering Committee, the Quality Assurance System currently implemented for processing requests for registration and issuance. The committees' members highlighted the importance of the system for ensuring environmental integrity and credibility of the GCC carbon credits. They also took note of the various measures, such as: capacity-building programs, performance monitoring and site visits, implemented to further enhance the quality of submissions to the GCC program.

Agenda item 7.2   GCC Regulatory Document Framework

15.   The GCC Operations Team presented to the Steering Committee the recent development of regulatory document framework including: GCC Program Framework, GCC Program Manual, Project Standard, Standard on Avoidance of Double Counting and clarifications.

Agenda item 7.3   Distinguishing Elements of GCC Program

16.   The Regulatory Committee and Steering Committee welcomed the presentation on the essential elements of the GCC Program defining its identity.

Agenda item 8.   GCC VERIFIERS & CARBON REGISTRY

Agenda item 8.1   GCC Verifiers: Initial Approval, Re-approval, Validity, and Performance Assessment

17.   A member of the Steering Committee updated that International Accreditation Forum (IAF) is going to replace ISO14064-2 with ISO17029. Consequently, the procedure for approval of the GCC verifiers should be revised accordingly.

18.   An idea was put forward that the GCC Program should develop its own accreditation system and further enhance the capacity to manage the performance of the verifiers. Another idea considered was that GCC could request other accreditation bodies e.g., CDM EB/Supervisory Body/National Accreditation Body (NAB) to incorporate the GCC requirements as part of their assessment of Validation & Verification Bodies (VVBs).

19.   The importance of calibration workshops for further enhancement of the quality of verification process was highlighted.

Agenda item 8.2   GCC Carbon Registry, Linking with Carbon Exchanges and Climate Action Data Trust (CADT)

20.   The GCC Operations Team presented the current stage of advancement of digitization of program processes and procedures. The team further informed about GCC's

participation in Climate Action Data Trust initiative and its connection to Carbon Exchanges.

Agenda item 9. GCC REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS (PART 1)

Agenda item 9.1   Proposed Program Process

21.   The GCC Operations Team presented the current regulatory provisions related to project processes and a draft revision of the GCC Program Processes regarding submission, consideration, and approval of request for registration of project activities and requests for issuance of approved carbon credits (ACCs), as well as the draft procedure for processing of post-registration changes.

22.   The GCC Operations Team presented the draft proposal for streamlining the timelines of responses by Project Owners and the GCC Verifiers. It was agreed to continue consideration of the proposal using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 9.2   Requirements on Additionality for GCC Projects

23.   The Regulatory Committee and Steering Committee welcomed the presentation of the essential elements related to the demonstration of additionality under the applicable rules and related inconsistencies spotted in the Project Submission Forms.

24.   The members of the committees highlighted a need for continuously enhancing the requirements for assessment of additionality demonstration.

Agenda item 9.3   Requirement on Investment Analysis

25.   The GCC Operations Team presented the approach for the assessment of the investment analysis in the demonstration of additionality currently implemented by Project Owners. The approach employs CDM-approved Tool 01 "Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality", Tool 21 "Demonstration of additionality of small-scale project activities" and Tool 27 "Investment analysis". The presentation also included listing of common inconsistencies in the analysis spotted in the Project Submission Forms.

Agenda item 10. GCC REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS (PART 2)

Agenda item 10.1.   Do-No-Net-Harm Requirements, Environment No-Net-Harm (E+ Label) and Social No-Net-Harm (S+ Label)

26.   The GCC Operations Team presented the Environment No-Net-Harm and Social No-Net-Harm standard and the most common issues identified in its implementation.

27.   The committee highlighted the importance of including preservation of biodiversity in the upcoming revisions of the standard.

Agenda item 10.2.   SDG Requirements (SDG+ label)

28.   The GCC Operations Team presented the sustainability standard and the most common issues identified in its implementation.

29. The committee members initiated consideration of increasing the number of SDGs needed to achieve a specific label. For example, bronze, silver, gold, platinum and diamond labels would be awarded for positive impacts on 2,4,6,8 and 10 SDG goals, respectively.

Agenda item 11. EXPERIENCE SHARING ON ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS

Agenda item 11.1.   Issues Observed During Completeness Checks at Request for Registration (RFR) Stage

30. The GCC Operations Team presented the most frequent issues spotted by the team in the completeness check at RFR stage. The members of the committees highlighted a continuous need to further capacity building.

Agenda item 11.2   Presentation on Recurring Issues Identified During Assessment of Requests for Issuance of Approved Carbon Credits (ACC) & Labels

31. The GCC Operations Team presented the most frequent issues spotted by the team at the assessment of Emission Reduction Verification Reports (ERVR) and requests for issuance of Approved Carbon Credits (ACC). The members of the committees highlighted a continuous need to further capacity building.

Agenda item 12. ROLES & FUNCTION OF STEERING COMMITTEE AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Agenda item 12.1.   Process of Decision-making on Requests for Registration and Issuance by Members of the Steering Committee

32. The GCC Operations Team presented the flowchart of project registration and ACC issuance processes, and explained stepwise approach implemented in them. In particular, steps containing a need for decision by the committees were explained in detail.

Agenda item 12.2   Review of Registration and Issuance Summary Notes

33. The GCC Operations Team presented the current templates used for Registration and Issuance Summary Notes, and explained a need for their revision. The members agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 12.3   Process of Development, Approval of Framework, Standards, and Methodologies by the Regulatory Committee

34. The GCC Operations Team presented the current regulatory provisions on methodology processes and proposed revision of the GCC Program Processes with respect to inclusion of bottom-up submission and consideration of methodologies, introduction of clarification on methodological issues, deviation from approved methodology and bottom-up submission of revision request of the approved GCC methodology, as well as procedure to put a methodology on hold.

35.   The Steering and Regulatory Committees initiated consideration of the proposed revision and agreed to continue it using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 12.3   Conflict of Interest Declaration Requirements from Members

36.   The Steering and Regulatory Committees considered information on the draft proposal for procedure on declaration of any potential conflict of interest and agreed to continue the consideration using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 13.   ACTIVITIES OF REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Agenda item 13.1.   Methodology on Green Hydrogen

37.   The Regulatory Committee initiated consideration of the initiative to develop methodological framework on green hydrogen. The members agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 13.2   Methodological and Mini-ETS Approaches for Buildings and Neighbourhoods

38.   The Regulatory Committee initiated consideration of the initiative to develop methodological framework for mini-ETS approaches for buildings and neighborhoods, and agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

39.   Agenda item 13.3   Other Mitigation Areas Under Consideration for Top-down Methodology Development: Electric Vehicles and Refrigerant Switches

40.   The Regulatory Committee initiated consideration of the initiative to develop methodological frameworks transportation, cooling sector, refrigerant switch and industrial water, and agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

41.   Agenda item 13.4   Regulatory Framework on Carbon Capture and Storage

42.   The Regulatory Committee initiated consideration of the CCS methodology taking into account the draft prepared by the GCC Operations Team and comments received from four CCS experts/reviewers, and agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 13.5   Methodological Approaches on Grid-Connected Battery Storage to Reduce Curtailment of Renewable Energy

43.   The Regulatory Committee initiated consideration of the grid-connected battery storage methodology, and agreed to continue consideration of the matter using electronic means of communication.

Agenda item 13.6   Regulatory Framework on Nature-Based Solutions Covering Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFLOU)

44.   The Regulatory Committee welcomed the presentation on the current state of work on the incorporation of activities containing nature-based solution (NbS) into the GCC regulatory system. In particular, they appreciated the progress in the development of Non-Permanence Risk Tool.

45. The committee members noted the importance of NbS in the context of low carbon and sustainable development.

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