

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
AND SANITATION

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REPUBLIC OF MALI  
One People – One Goal – One Faith

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Permanent Technical Secretariat  
of the Institutional Framework for Management  
of Environmental Issues (STP/CIGQE)

GENERAL REPORT:  
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND (GEF)  
NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP

May 17 – 19, 2005

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

From May 17 – 19, 2005, the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) National Dialogue Workshop, organized by the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation in partnership with the GEF Secretariat and UNDP, was held at the Nord-Sud Hotel.

One hundred people (see appended list) attended this workshop, representing territorial collectivities, technical departments, development partners, Government institutions, and NGOs. Participants came not only from the District of Bamako, but from the eight administrative regions of Mali as well.

The workshop's objectives were:

- to make the wider public aware of GEF, its mission, strategy, policies, and procedures; and
- to facilitate participation by national stakeholders in the GEF program in Mali, and ensure that this program is in sync with national priorities in the area of environmental protection.

This report is structured according to the chronology of workshop events, and endeavors to summarize, for each day, the topics that were presented and the discussions that occurred. The report concludes with general recommendations emerging from the presentations and augmented by data gleaned from participants' evaluation forms. These recommendations should be regarded more or less as avenues for reflection with a view to positioning Mali more advantageously so that the country can exploit the funding opportunities available from GEF.

## **II. OPENING CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony, under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation, included five speeches. First, the GEF Operational Focal Point, Mr. Alamir Sinna Touré, after having welcomed all delegations and representatives of the GEF Secretariat, reiterated the workshop's objectives. Mr. Moctar Touré of the GEF Secretariat thanked the Malian Government for having agreed to hold this workshop. He also pointed out that GEF's mandate is to assist countries most affected by natural resource degradation by providing them with new and additional funding to address the deeper local causes of this degradation.

The UNDP Resident Representative in Mali, Mr. Joseph Byll-Cotaria, stated that Mali is the 14<sup>th</sup> country to benefit from GEF's national dialogue initiative. He reiterated that UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank are GEF's main implementing agencies. He also urged participants to take full advantage of these information and training sessions in order to better arm and equip themselves to help Mali achieve its development goals.

Mr. Alassane Diawara, World Bank Resident Representative in Bamako, emphasized in his speech the need to integrate environmental issues into policies, strategies, and national programs.

In his opening speech, Mr. Yafond Berthé, Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation, representing the Minister, described the overall natural resource situation. He emphasized the impact of natural resource degradation on

general poverty and especially on the social equilibrium of communities. He added that a culture of sustainable natural resource management must be promoted. With GEF's help, he said, Mali will be able to meet the broad challenges of environmental protection.

### **III. SEQUENCE OF WORKSHOP EVENTS**

The office established to coordinate the workshop was staffed by:

Chairman: Dr. Amadou Diallo, Technical Adviser to the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation

Vice-President: Mr. Mohamed Ag Sindibla, Regional Assembly, Timbuktu.

Rapporteurs: Dr. Alamir Sinna Touré, Operational Focal Point, Mali  
Mme. Aïda M'Bo Dembélé, GEF Focal Point within UNDP.

This office was supported by staff of the GEF Secretariat and by the regional office for UNDP/GEF coordination in Dakar.

#### **3.1 Presentations on GEF (May 17)**

Two rapporteurs were designated for Day 1. They were: Messrs. Fousséni Diakité of the Permanent Technical Secretariat for the Institutional Framework for Management of Environmental Issues (STP/CIGQE), and Sidi Diabaté, of the Secretariat for Coordination of Non-Governmental Organizations.

##### **3.11 Synthesis of presentations**

Work began with the presentation of the workshop's objectives by Mr. Mathieu Koumoin of the Regional Office for UNDP/GEF Coordination (Dakar).

Mr. Moctar Touré of the GEF Secretariat then provided an historical overview of GEF and presented the broad outlines of its mandate, spheres of intervention, and thematic priorities. He then discussed in some detail its structure, functioning, operating procedures, eligibility terms and conditions, emerging issues, and the GEF project cycle. On this last topic, he was assisted by Mme. Song Li.

In summary, the Global Environmental Fund is a financial mechanism that supports Government-initiated activities in furtherance of sustainable development objectives. It is an agency for the co-financing of projects. It provides new and additional funding for the resolution of global environmental problems. It supports projects that must supplement national programs and policies in a way that maximizes the benefit to the global environment.

GEF, he said, helps countries to carry out:

- large-scale projects (i.e., those totaling US\$ 1 million or more);
- medium-sized projects (i.e., those valued at up to US\$ 1 million);
- the GEF micro-financing program (which provides direct grants of up to US\$ 50,000 to NGOs and community-based organizations).

Funds may be allocated for the preparation of project briefs (under the Project Development Fund (PDF)); for so-called 'enabling activities'; for the development of strategies and action plans; or for the production of reports required under the terms of international environmental conventions.

GEF projects must be part of one or another of the 15 Operational Programs associated with thematic areas, i.e.: biodiversity (5), climate change (4), international waters (3), persistent organic pollutants (POPs), land degradation (1), and cross-cutting programs (1). These programs set out the framework, background, and intervention and funding approach to project concepts.

### **3.12 Synthesis of discussions**

Following the presentations, the floor was opened for debate. This enabled participants to pose questions of both a background and substantive nature concerning project preparation methods, management of GEF funds, and the project-preparation capability of the countries involved. Questions covered the following topics, among others:

- the concept of new and additional funds;
- the project development fund (PDF);
- cost overruns;
- the project cycle;
- the system for replenishing GEF funds;
- the need to help GEF Focal Points in disseminating information and training results;
- conditions of eligibility and the need for evaluation feedback in order to incorporate this into the design of new projects.

Mr. Touré's responses brought the discussion back to the need to establish a mechanism for communication among the various actors regarding the methods of evaluation of various types of projects; and the importance of disseminating information within countries, which also coincides with the objectives of this workshop. Beyond that, the responses highlighted the need for Mali to better position itself to take advantage of opportunities that will be offered under upcoming phases of the GEF.

## **3.2 National priorities (May 18)**

The day began with the designation of that day's two rapporteurs: Messrs. Noël Diarra (Malian Environmental Law Network) and Messa Ould Halbabib (University of Bamako).

A series of presentations was given on the projects and activities of the National Focal Point; projects of local, regional and national scope; sectoral policies in the thematic areas covered by GEF; and the Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework (PRSF).

### **3.21 Synthesis of presentations**

#### **3.211 Activities of the Operational Focal Point (OFP)**

Activities carried out thus far by the OFP, according to Dr. Alamir Sinna Touré, may be grouped as follows:

- endorsement of projects submitted to GEF;
- assistance for preparation of projects submitted to GEF;
- capacity-building;
- creation of a GEF project inventory;
- dissemination of GEF documents; and
- outreach and information.

The GEF project portfolio in Mali contains 10 projects representing total funding of US\$ 15 million and 15 other projects of regional or sub-regional scope in which Mali is a participant. GEF's contribution to these projects amounts to US\$ 43 million.

Mali, he noted, has not managed to mobilize as much GEF funding as it would like. This situation may be due to a lack of awareness, on the part of most project promoters, of ways to gain access to this fund, and to the OFP's inability to fully play his role.

Despite the complexity of its procedures, GEF remains the most important source of funding for environmental protection. It would therefore be advisable to energize the activities of the OFP with a view to greater utilization of the opportunities offered by GEF.

This would require that the OFP's human, material and financial capacities be enhanced so that these GEF opportunities can be exploited.

### **3.212 Malian experience with implementation of GEF projects**

In order to illustrate the approach and available options for the identification, development and implementation of local, national, and regional projects, some experiences with implementation of current GEF projects in Mali were presented and discussed. The projects in question are:

*Management of indigenous vegetation for rehabilitation of grazing lands in arid and semi-arid zones in Africa.* Presented by Mr. Mohamed Lamine Kallé, Project Coordinator.

GEF is helping three African countries (Botswana, Kenya and Mali) to implement a program of biodiversity conservation and dryland ecosystem restoration in arid and semi-arid zones of Africa. The program is also being supported by the University of Oslo and the respective governments of the countries involved. The project includes regional coordination and national components. In Mali, the project will facilitate the creation and strengthening of community-based management committees in two sites (i.e., Nara district and the rural township of Bamba) in order to enable them to assume full responsibility for the management of indigenous vegetation. It will also restore grazing areas.

*GEF Small Grant Program (GEF/SGP).* Presented by Mr. Oumar Mohamed Salim Kaba, Program Coordinator.

Through this program, GEF is providing up to US\$ 50,000 in grants to NGOs and CBOs. During the three phases, i.e., from 1993 through 2004, the program financed 185 community projects, of which 60 percent were biodiversity projects, 15 percent dealt with

climate change, and 25 percent addressed other topics. The third operational phase began in March 2005. The following experiences were shared with participants:

- Banamba Aire Vivante (Banamba Nature Preserve): accomplishments and implementation difficulties were presented. This project is being promoted by the NGO DONKO.
- Pilot project for installation of domestic biogas sites, in order to reduce pressure on wood resources and diminish emissions of greenhouse gases such as methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and thereby preserve the ozone layer. The GEF Small Grants Program (SGP/GEF) is providing support to the Mali-Folkecenter.
- Pilot project for hybrid wind/solar pumping: reduces emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) by means of a pumping system powered by a clean and less-polluting energy source. Support is being provided by SGP/GEF to Mali-Folkecenter.
- Community-based Conservation of Genetic Resources of Cowpeas and *Vouandzou* in the rural township of Téné. This project has capitalized on traditional knowledge and techniques used in the management of the biodiverse genetic endowment of cowpeas and *vouandzou* (aka Bambara groundnut), and has strengthened farmers' ability to manage genetic resources.

### **3.213 Enforcement of conventions and cross-cutting policies**

Presentations were given on cross-cutting policies and on the implementation of conventions covered by GEF. These include:

*National Environmental Protection Policy (Politique nationale de protection de l'environnement, PNPE) and implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UN-CCD).* Presentation by Mr. Moussa Deméblé (Assistant SG of GEF Permanent Technical Secretariat).

The NEAP (National Environmental Action Plan) process, which began in 1992, resulted in June 1998 in the adoption of a National Environmental Protection Policy (*Politique nationale de protection de l'environnement* (PNPE)). From a technical standpoint, development of the National Environmental Action Plan integrates the National Action Programs drawn up within the framework of the CCD. The PNPE has a two-fold objective:

- to ensure a healthy environment and sustainable development by making all actors accountable;
- to help combat desertification, ensure food security, prevent and combat pollution, and reduce poverty.

For implementation of this policy, nine (9) national action programs have been identified. They are expressed in the form of concrete projects, large or small, urban or rural, scaled to the daily activities of the populace, so that they might become part of a mindset and part of a productive response to actual living conditions. With the help of technical and financial partners such as GTZ, community initiatives for sustainable natural resource management have been undertaken at the level of certain rural townships and village lands.

### **National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (SNPA/DB)**

Dr. Alamir Sinna Touré, Coordinator of the SNPA-DB project, mentioned in his presentation that Mali has adhered to the provisions of Article 6 of the Convention by developing a national strategy for biodiversity, accompanied by an Action Plan (SNPA-BD). This strategy aims to:

- preserve biodiversity;
- ensure the sustainable use of the elements that constitute biodiversity;
- ensure the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of exploitation of biodiversity and of its constituent elements.

In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, five (5) specific programs are proposed. Zones of intervention as well as priority actions have been identified. Some priorities have been translated into projects for to which the Government is seeking financial partners. Mali has also evaluated the capacity-building efforts required in order to implement this strategy, and has prepared two reports on the implementation of the Convention. In the area of biosecurity, a national framework has been prepared and a draft national law on biosecurity is being drawn up.

### **Implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

Mr. Abdoulay Bayogo, Coordinator of PANA, emphasized in his presentation that, thanks to support from the GEF/UNDP project, Mali has prepared and presented to the CoP6 in The Hague its first National Communication on the UNFCCC. This communication has resulted in the following: (i) an inventory of greenhouse gases; (ii) implementation of studies aimed at mitigating greenhouse gases in the energy, agricultural, livestock and forestry sectors; and (iii) the training of a panel of national experts in the inventorying of greenhouse gases, and in topics related to weather vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

**Implementation of the Montreal Protocol:** Presented by Dr. Modibo Sacko, FP of the Montreal Protocol. Mali ratified the Vienna Convention, the Montreal Protocol and the London Amendments in October 1994, the Copenhagen and Montreal Amendments in January 2001, and the Beijing Amendments in March 2004. The FP enumerated the substances that degrade the ozone layer, including in particular the chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons (bromates), hydro-chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), and methyl bromate, all of which are used in agriculture as pesticides and in the fumigation of grain stores.

In connection with implementation of the Protocol, Mali has:

- begun, as of July 1, 1999, to enforce regulatory measures to adhere to the elimination timetable, which provides for a total halt, by 2010, to the use of substances that degrade the ozone layer; and
- developed a country program according to the guidelines of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund with support from UNEP and under the supervision of the STP/CIGQE.

**Implementation in Mali of the Stockholm Convention on POPs.** Communication prepared by Mr. Lamine Théra, POP Focal Point, but presented by Dr. Modibo Sacko.

For implementation of a National Management Plan for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), a prepared project was financed by GEF and the Federal Republic of Germany. The project began in May 2002 and ended in April 2004.

Four (4) key steps were identified for development of the National Implementation Plan (NIP):

- updating of the national profile;
- inventory of POPs;
- identification of harmful impacts of POPs on health and the environment; and
- development of a communication plan.

**Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework (PRSF)**, presented by Mme. Fatoumata Keita of the PRSF Unit. The final version of the PRSF was approved by the Council of Ministers on May 29, 2002. It concludes that: (i) 64 percent and 21 percent of the total population, respectively, are living either in poverty or extreme poverty; (ii) poverty is essentially a rural phenomenon, but also increasingly affects large cities due to the deterioration of the labor market and population movements.

The general objective is to reduce poverty from its 2001 level of 63.8 percent to 47.5 percent by 2006. The GDP growth objective is 6.7 percent per annum over the 2002-06 period.

The PRSF strategy is built around three priority areas:

- institutional development and improvement of governance and participation;
- human resource development and enhanced access to basic social services; and
- development of infrastructures and support to productive sectors.

Regarding the environment, the PRSF intends to increase access to safe water and to reduce disparities in terms of sanitation and drinking water infrastructures affecting villages that lack such amenities. In order to mitigate the impact of unhygienic conditions and various pollutions on human health and the biophysical environment, actions undertaken under the PRSF aim to develop effective and sustainable facilities for the collection and processing of urban waste as well as temporary and permanent waste dump facilities.

### **3.22 Synthesis of discussions**

This series of presentations elicited several reactions on the part of participants. The resulting debate enabled participants to ask both basic and in-depth questions concerning project preparation methods, the management of GEF funds, the capacity of countries to prepare projects and, therefore, the need for capacity-building. The questions posed dealt with:

- difficulties associated with the length of the project cycle;

- difficulties in mobilizing financial resources, and the resulting need to obtain help from the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation and from the UNDP;
- creation of a National GEF Committee for project monitoring and the risk of overlap with the FP's collaborative framework for environmental conventions ratified by Mali;
- inadequate monitoring of approved projects and lack of monitoring of project implementation;
- failure to capitalize on the results of projects, for lack of an evaluation system;
- absence of an operating budget;
- need for greater attention to the desires of local populations before any project ideas concerning them are drawn up;
- the need to broaden projects to embrace GEF topics other than biodiversity and climate change, and to design integrated projects;
- the need to address poverty reduction while respecting ecological imperatives;
- the need for strategic outreach that would place Mali in a better position to benefit from opportunities offered by GEF.

Some questions were answered, while others were discussed in considerable depth. The discussion also showed that several important aspects of the country strategies were squarely within GEF's sphere of intervention. They will therefore need to be exploited within the context of a GEF program.

### **3.23 Presentations and discussion of the private sector and science and technology**

The day of May 19, 2005 saw the presentation and discussion of the private sector and of science and technology, and group-based work aimed at identifying national priorities in the area of environmental protection.

For the plenary session, Mr. Alkaidy Touré, Regional Director for Nature Conservation in Mopti, was designated as rapporteur.

At the outset of the session, Mr. Mathieu presented an overview of the scientific and technical aspects, the roles and strategies needed in order to involve the private sector in formulating and implementing GEF projects. The private sector may attract investment, accomplish transfers of cutting-edge technologies, and ensure sustainability and replicability, which often depend upon the existence of functioning markets.

GEF can act indirectly, promoting commercial transactions by eliminating barriers: e.g., creation of market conditions conducive to certain activities (ex.: enable enterprises to sell household solar systems or efficient lighting systems) ; assistance to enterprises wishing to enter an untested market (ex: provision of guarantees to financial institutions that extend credit). GEF can even act directly on behalf of the authors of acceptable project proposals or the immediate beneficiaries (ex.: financing of excess costs for enterprises that invest in eco-tourism), and through procurement channels by allowing private enterprises to submit bids for the provision of goods and services to GEF.

In the second part of the presentation, GEF's Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), which is responsible for providing strategic scientific advice, was discussed. This entity provides advice on the state of scientific and technical knowledge, on technologies relevant to GEF subject areas, and on broad scientific and technical issues. It may undertake research "geared to objectives that support GEF's operational strategy through the provision of information, knowledge and tools that improve the quality and efficiency of the development and implementation of GEF projects and programs".

Questions raised by this presentation addressed, among other things, GEF's potential role in the transfer of skills and technologies; the true nature of private sector intervention in research; the concept of the Clean Development Mechanism; and the representativeness of the STAP membership.

Appropriate answers were supplied by Messrs. Mathieu Koumoin and Moctar and by Mme. Li.

### **3.24 Working groups (May 19, continued)**

The second part of the day was devoted to working in groups. Three thematic groups were set up:

GROUP 1 – BIODIVERSITY

GROUP 2 - CLIMATE CHANGE, POPS, OZONE LAYER

GROUP 3 - INTERNATIONAL WATER AND LAND DEGRADATION.

In order to carry out their work, each working group designated a chairman and a rapporteur. The resource persons present at the workshop served as facilitators within the groups.

Each working group endeavored, for its assigned topics, to identify priority intervention themes to be included in a three-year GEF program for Mali. Groups proposed measures or arrangements for extracting GEF-eligible projects from these intervention themes, and made suggestions for the establishment of a mechanism for the effective communication, coordination and monitoring of the main program animators.

In the plenary session, the results of the groups' work were discussed and augmented. They are appended to this report. The priority themes mentioned are the following:

#### **A. Biodiversity**

- Conservation of medicinal plants
- Conservation of specific ecosystems (e.g., Gourma, Niger Delta, Baoulé, Bafing, etc.);
- Preservation and conservation of plant and animal species with economic value for Mali and of indigenous species;
- Enhancement of capacities for sustainable management of ecosystems and biological resources, and integration of biodiversity issues into development policies.

#### **B. Climate change – POPs – Ozone Layer**

Adaptation of agriculture to the effects of climate change

- Adoption of drought-resistant varieties;

- Adoption of new cropping systems;
- Diversification of production;
- Construction of water-control infrastructures;
- Agro-meteorological assistance.

Adaptation in terms of health measures:

- Creation of safe water points;
- IEC (information, education & communication) on hygiene and sanitation;
- Improvement of food supplies;
- Enhanced intervention capability.

Adaptation of fisheries/flora/fauna/livestock:

- expansion of fish farming;
- Improvement of fishing techniques;
- Development of fodder crops;
- Increase in number of pastoral wells;
- Rational use of pasturelands;
- Development of intensive livestock production;
- Development of animal product processing infrastructures;
- Valorization of the production stream;
- Reforestation;
- Development of natural forests and fauna;
- Creation of protected zones;
- modification/enforcement of legislative and regulatory texts.

Adaptation in terms of energy use:

- Control of energy resources and energy conservation;
- Strengthening of energy production capacities;
- Promotion of renewable energies;
- Promotion of fuel alternatives to wood and charcoal;

Adaptation in terms of water resources:

- Strengthening of the early warning system;
- Promotion of techniques for capturing runoff;
- Exploitation of underground water;
- Protection and improvement of the quality of water resources.

### **C. INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

- Desilting of rivers and watercourses;
- River bank stabilization;
- Suppression of invasive plants;
- Anti-pollution efforts;
- Control of surface and ground water resources.

### **D. LAND DEGRADATION**

- Efforts to combat deforestation and drought;
- Restoration of soil fertility;
- Recovery of degraded lands;
- Efforts to combat land-based pollution.

#### **IV. ASSESSMENT OF THE WORKSHOP BY PARTICIPANTS**

Towards the end of the workshop, evaluation forms were distributed to participants in order to obtain their opinion of the content of the training, the organization of the workshop and the follow-up that participants intend to give it. About fifty (50) evaluation forms were collected.

Initial examination of the forms indicates that most participants found the workshop satisfactory and that it had achieved its objectives. Moreover, the richly detailed information contained in the evaluation forms indicates the interest that participants have in this type of information workshop, and the latter's extended impact at the level of the administrative regions. A desire was expressed for more in-depth training in the formulation of GEF-eligible projects.

#### **V. FIELD VISIT (May 20)**

May 20 was devoted to a field visit to sites involved in a project for the Management and Restoration of Degraded Populations of the [Tree Species] *Detarium microcarpum*. The project is being implemented by the NGO PACINDILA with support from GEF's Small Grant Program. The project is located in the Ouéléllébougou sub-prefecture, where 10 villages have embarked upon an effort to restore stands of *detarium microcarpum* trees. Participants in the visit discussed with beneficiaries the significance of *detarium microcarpum* for their village lands, the results anticipated from the project, and their commitment to restoring stands of the species in the project area.

#### **VI. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The workshop enabled participants to:

- better understand the structure, operations, and the various funding opportunities of funding offered by this mechanism; project eligibility, project design and development methods, and the submission of GEF project proposals; and
- place environmental issues in context and understand the importance of measures required in order to handle them in Mali.

In order to achieve sustainable development objectives, it is absolutely necessary to develop appropriate strategies for mobilizing additional funding. We need thorough familiarity with the mechanisms and procedures involved in accessing GEF funds. For lack of relevant information and training, actors often lack the ability to submit acceptable projects. This national dialogue, which is part of this train of thought, will certainly improve our capacity to obtain more GEF funding.

There was a consensus among participants on the need to mobilize resources for environmental protection projects. Despite the complexity of its procedures and the numerous difficulties, the participants acknowledged that GEF remains a potential source of financing for environmental protection. It would thus be advisable to spur action on the part of the GEF Operational Focal Point.

A strategy should be developed for mobilizing human resources and for developing a GEF program based on priorities identified in planning documents and sectoral

strategies. This program will serve as a baseline framework for project ideas and for projects to be submitted to GEF.

Once the work was concluded, the workshop issued recommendations aimed both at acknowledging participants' questions and concerns about decision-making within GEF and at setting out avenues for reflection on improving the preparation of projects to be submitted to GEF. The recommendations can be grouped as follows:

To the Operational Focal Point:

- Develop national expertise by identifying experts and organizing working groups to identify and formulate projects to be submitted to GEF for financing;
- Pursue efforts to train and inform the various stakeholders (at the regional and national levels), in order to familiarize them with the GEF mechanism;
- Find ways of capitalizing on the accomplishments of GEF-financed projects.

To the STP/CIGQE:

- Energize the collaborative framework for focal points within the interministerial committee, which is the consultative body for the various program monitoring and coordination experts of ministerial departments.

To regional delegates:

- Organize regional reporting sessions on the results of the workshop.

To the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation:

- Establish a national GEF committee and regional committees that will serve as a collaborative framework for the development of project ideas corresponding to strategic themes;
- Spur the emergence of ideas, proposals and project briefs for submission to GEF.

## **VII. CLOSING CEREMONY**

The closing ceremony was marked by the launching of Operational Phase III of the Small Grant Program. This took the form of the signing of memoranda of agreement between the UNDP and 10 beneficiary NGOs/CBOs. On this occasion, the UNDP Resident Representative congratulated the recipients, who were able to mobilize over one hundred ninety-one million CFAF (CFAF 191 million). The projects will help local communities become involved in environmental protection.

The Representative of the GEF Secretariat, Mr. Moctar Touré, spoke next, reiterating his organization's commitment to continuing the process already initiated. He emphasized the strategic goals of GEF.

Mme. Aïda M'Bo Dembélé of the UNDP read out the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop.

In his closing speech, Mr. Yafong Berthé repeated that the department will examine the workshop's conclusions and recommendations closely in order to spur the mobilization of GEF funds. He thanked the GEF Secretariat, the UNDP, the other partners, and all the participants for their active participation. He concluded by wishing all participants a safe return to their respective homes.

## VIII. ANNEXES

### Annex 1: WORKSHOP AGENDA

<b>TUESDAY, May 17, 2005</b>			
<b>Times</b>	<b>AGENDAS</b>	<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>SESSION CHAIRMAN &amp; RAPORTEURS</b>
<b>08:30 – 9:30</b>	Registration of participants and distribution of workshop documents	Organizational commission	
<b>9:00 – 9:40</b>	Opening ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OFF/GEF</li> <li>▪ UNDP Res. Rep.</li> <li>▪ World Bank Res. Rep.</li> <li>▪ Ministry of Econ/Fin. (PFP/GEF)</li> <li>▪ GEF Secretariat</li> <li>▪ MEA</li> </ul>	MEA
<b>9:40 – 10:00 Coffee Break</b>			
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	Establishment of an office Review of Workshop objectives	Mathieu Koumoin UNDP/GEF	SG/MEA
<b>10:15-11:15</b>	Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Worldwide environmental problems; areas of GEF intervention; conventions and links</li> <li>▪ GEF: history; governance; structure; operating procedures; concepts</li> <li>▪ Presentation of project eligibility criteria</li> <li>▪ Role of National Focal Point (GEF)</li> <li>▪ Role of beneficiaries (GEF)</li> </ul>	Moctar Touré, GEF Secretariat  Song Li, World Bank t.b.a. UNEP/GEF	SG/MEA
<b>11:15-12:00</b>	<b>Discussions</b>		
<b>12:00-1:00 pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Operational programs on biodiversity, international waters and soil degradation</li> <li>▪ Discussions</li> </ul>	Moctar Touré, GEF Secretariat	SG/MEA

<b>1:00-2:00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>		
2:00 – 2:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Operational programs on climate change</li> <li>▪ Discussions</li> </ul>	Mathieu Koumoin, UNDP/GEF	
2:45 – 3:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation on preparation of a project idea</li> <li>▪ Presentation on transition from concept paper to project proposal</li> <li>▪ Presentation on basic elements of proper project formulation that integrates data on cost increases and co-financing.</li> </ul>	Song Li, World Bank	
3:35-4:15	Coffee break		
4:15-5:15	Discussions		
<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2005</b>			
Times	Agenda	Presenter	Session chairman and rapporteur
9:00-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of coordination activities at country level</li> </ul>	National GEF FP	
9:30-11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Experience w/ a regional project</li> <li>▪ Experience w/ PPS/GEF program</li> <li>▪ Experience w/ a national project</li> </ul>	Mr. Mohamed Kallé, PGVA Mohamed S. Kaba, PPS/GEF	
11:00-11:30	Coffee break		
11:30-12:30	Discussions		
12:30-13:30	Lunch break		
1:30-2:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of environmental policy/PAN</li> </ul>	STP/CIGQE	SG/MEA
2:00-2:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework (PRSF)</li> </ul>	PRSF Unit	
2:30-3:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of National Strategy for Biodiversity and priorities</li> </ul>	Coordinator, SNPA-DB	
<b>3:00-3:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>		
3:30-4:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of national communication on</li> </ul>	FP/CCCC	

	climate change and priorities		
4:00-4:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation on ozone layer</li> <li>▪ Presentation on POPs</li> </ul>	FP/DNACPN	
4:30-5:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation of NEPAD Environmental Component</li> </ul>	FP/MEA	
5:00-6:00	<b>Discussions</b>		

<b>Thursday, May 19, 2005</b>			
<b>TIMES</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>SESSION CHAIRMAN &amp; RAPPORTEUR</b>
9:00-9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussions of strategies for involving scientists and technicians in formulation and implementation of GEF projects</li> </ul>	t.b.a., UNEP/GEF	
9:45-10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Information and discussion of role of private sector and strategies for involving it in formulation and implementation of GEF projects</li> </ul>	Mathieu Koumoin, UNDP/GEF	
10:45-11:15	<b>Coffee break</b>		
11:15-1:00	Working groups, identification of priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Biodiversity</li> <li>▪ Climate change and international waters</li> <li>▪ Land degradation</li> </ul>	National FP  GEF/las	
1:00 – 2:00	<b>Lunch break</b>		
2:00-2:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Working groups' reports, in plenary session, on their work</li> </ul>		SG/MEA
2:30-2:45	WRITTEN EVALUATIONS OF WORKSHOP	GEF	GEF
2:45-3:30	CLOSING CEREMONY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reading of workshop report</li> <li>▪ Closing remarks</li> </ul>	Rapporteur; GEF Secretariat MEA	MEA
<b>Friday, May 20, 2005</b>			
<b>TIMES</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>SESSION CHAIRMAN &amp; RAPPORTEUR</b>
<b>8:30-11:30</b>	<b>Field trip (optional): Project site visit</b>		

## Annex 2

**REMARKS DELIVERED BY THE OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT  
GEF NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP  
NORD-SUD HOTEL  
May 17-19, 2005**

Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation;  
Presidents of Government Agencies;  
Resident Representatives of the United Nations Agencies;  
Honorable guests;  
Ladies and Gentlemen;  
Workshop participants:

In my capacity as National Focal Point of the Global Environmental Fund, I would like to express my gratitude for your attendance at this ceremony.

My words of welcome are also extended to the Secretariat of the UNDP/GEF, whose representatives have come expressly to assist in organizing this meeting.

I would also like to thank the UNDP Office in Bamako and its Service Center for its help in organizing this gathering.

Finally, to all the delegations of the various regions who have made the trip to Bamako and to the experts who have graciously agreed to interrupt their usual activities in order to come and share their experiences, I extend a cordial welcome.

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Esteemed guests,

It is indeed a fortunate initiative that has led to the organization of this workshop, which has the overall goal of re-launching the process in the sub-region. The idea of organizing a GEF National Dialogue Workshop is an expression of a need, both expressed and implicit, for greater understanding of GEF's funding mechanisms. It also reflects the obvious willingness of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation to enter into a partnership based on collaboration, coordination, and synergy, in order to most effectively exploit the financing opportunities offered by the Global Environmental Fund.

The main objectives of the workshop are the following:

- to make a wider public aware of GEF and of its mission, strategy, policies and procedures;
- to facilitate the participation of national stakeholders in the GEF program in Mali, and ensure that GEF assistance is in keeping with national priorities in the area of environmental protection;
- to offer practical information on access to GEF resources and on GEF's methods for the design, development and implementation of GEF-financed activities.

These objectives should enable us to make notable progress in the immediate future in developing projects and programs eligible for GEF funding, and in mobilizing greater financial resources for environmental protection in the coming years.

Allow me once more to wish you all a warm welcome.

Thank you.

**REMARKS DELIVERED BY MR. MOCTAR TOURE, GEF SECRETARIAT,  
AT THE GEF NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP  
MAY 17-19, 2005**

Mr. Secretary General, representing the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation;  
Mr. Secretary General, representing the Ministry of Economy and Finance;  
Mr. Resident Representative of the World Bank,  
Mr. Resident Representative of the FAO;  
Mr. Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program;  
Honorable Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Workshop Participants:

I would first like to express to the Secretaries General, in the name of the entire Global Environmental Fund (GEF) family, our gratitude for having accepted our invitation to organize a national GEF dialogue workshop in Mali. The entire GEF management team also sends its greetings and wishes for success. I would next like to say how happy it makes me personally to know that I'll be among you in the upcoming days, working side by side with you to explore and exploit the many opportunities in the offing in near future, and ensuring that GEF's presence is more widely known, and therefore effective, in Mali. Finally, I would finally like to thank you, on behalf of all my colleagues here, for the warm welcome and hospitality that have been extended to us.

We are very impressed and delighted to see, as evidenced by your large and varied attendance, that the challenges of managing our collective natural resource heritage resonate far beyond the framework of public administration. This mobilization proves to us that Mali's Government and its decision-makers attach great importance to current problems that pose an insidious and ongoing threat to the well-being of all people, and that compromise the stability and the future of societies all over the world.

The latest status report on global ecosystems, published a few weeks ago at the threshold of the new Millennium, paints a sobering picture of the world's environmental situation, pointing out that no ecosystem is immune to a degradation of its structure and functioning due to unprecedented human pressures.

This report emphasizes in particular the extreme fragility of ecosystems in arid and semi-arid zones, as well as the palpable risk that they could slide into a state of nearly irreversible degradation. In these ecosystems, which are of direct concern to us here, one can see the multiple effect of this degradation every day: sandstorms, siltation of watercourses, loss of indigenous flora and fauna, and various forms of air, land and water pollution. The GEF, whose mandate is to help the most severely affected countries by providing new and additional funds enabling them to attack the underlying local causes of natural resource degradation as well as their global sources, has endeavored to integrate all of the emerging challenges highlighted in the report. It is resolutely oriented towards:

- recognizing and creating close linkages between the environment and development;
- promoting more integrated management of all natural resources;
- improving GEF's own productivity by:
  - listening more attentively to stakeholders;
  - maximizing results and impacts;

- shortening and streamlining its project cycle;
- promoting strategic programming, all forms of sustainability, systematic incorporation into all policy frameworks (PANE, DRSP, PAS, etc.) and, finally, partnership (governance/SC/private sector/NGOs) in all its forms.

This workshop that we are attending today is an outgrowth of this desire to listen and to incorporate your countries' needs into GEF strategies and programs. Before my colleague Mathieu Koumouin of the UNDP goes into detail on workshop objectives, I would like to stress how important it is to place our deliberations within the global context of efforts to ensure sustainable development in Mali and in the West Africa region. It is important that Mali position itself strategically precisely at this time, since GEF will be beginning, over the coming days and months, the process of replenishing its funds. Mali must demonstrate very clearly its strategy for managing its natural resources in a way that secures GEF funds early and uses them in a strategic way.

GEF representatives attending the workshop will be available to you over these three days to provide all the necessary information both during the formal sessions and outside of them. I would therefore urge you to take maximum advantage of their presence to learn more about GEF and its presence in the region and to analyze with them whatever problems there seem to be.

Finally, we are particularly hopeful that, at the conclusion of this dialogue, you will be able to identify some priority areas and to formulate recommendations concerning the next steps to take in order to translate the workshop's results into concrete action.

I would personally like to thank the GEF Operational Focal Point, Mr. Alamir Touré, and through him, the entire organizational committee, for the excellent level of organization of the workshop.

In conclusion, I wish you productive deliberations and thank you once again for your participation in this workshop.

Thank you for your attention.

**Remarks delivered by Joseph Byll-Cataria, UNDP Resident Representative  
to the National GEF Dialogue Workshop  
Tuesday, May 17, 2005  
Nord-Sud Hotel**

Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation;  
Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Economy and Finance;  
Mr. Resident Representative of the World Bank;  
Mr. Representative of the GEF Secretariat;  
Members of Government Agencies;  
Esteemed Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps and International Organizations in Mali;  
Representatives of Technical Departments, Civil Society and the Private Sector;  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is truly a pleasure for me to take part today in opening the GEF National Dialogue Workshop organized by Mali in close collaboration with the Global Environmental Fund. GEF is a financial mechanism created in 1994 by the international community to help developing countries to implement projects aimed at preserving the global environment and promoting the well-being of local communities.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Mali is the 14<sup>th</sup> country to benefit from the GEF National Dialogues Initiative, a program carried out by GEF's 3 main implementing agencies, namely: the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); the World Bank (WB); and the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP). Please allow me to convey the apologies of the latter, whose representatives were unable to attend this gathering due to some last-minute conflicts.

In collaboration with the GEF Secretariat, and in keeping with its main goals, the national dialogue makes it possible to identify, within a collaborative framework, the priorities and national development strategies of various countries, ensuring that they are in sync with the procedures and strategies of the Global Environmental Fund. Where Mali is concerned, UNDP is working with the Government to help it carry out its Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework (PRSF) coherently and efficiently and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through programs and interventions at various levels.

There are many challenges, however, and this workshop will enable us to identify gaps through an examination of current approaches and experiences. This will help to develop a consensus around national priorities, to propose mechanisms and modalities that can, among other things, attract the interest of scientists as well as of the private sector as partners of GEF in the co-financing of national programs, etc. This is why I would urge all of you to take full advantage of the information and training sessions that will be organized with specialists from the Global Environmental Fund and national resource persons, so that you can be better armed and equipped to help your country to achieve its development objectives. It is with this in mind that the workshop wished to have all regions of Mali represented, so that various concerns -- whether local, regional or national -- could be taken into account. I am sure that the collaborative work and exchanges that will occur during this gathering will enable Mali to mobilize GEF financing more pro-actively and strategically.

I would therefore ask you to examine with particular attention GEF's strategies and operational programs and to do some in-depth thinking about how to mobilize the corresponding funds.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I will close by assuring you that the United Nations Development Program, within the framework of a strategic partnership with the Government of Mali and civil society, will make every effort to see that the priorities selected are implemented.

Thank you for your kind attention.

**REMARKS BY THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WORLD BANK  
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP  
MAY 17, 2005**

Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation;  
Mr. Resident Coordinator of the SNU;  
Technical and Financial Partners;  
Mr. Resident Representative of the GEF Secretariat;  
Esteemed participants:

Mr. Secretary General,

The National Dialogue Workshop that brings us all here today is aimed at providing participants with broad information on the Global Environmental Fund, its mission, strategy, policies and procedures, in order to facilitate the participation of Malian actors in programs supported by the Fund.

The Global Environmental Fund was established in 1991 through a resolution passed by the World Bank's Board of Directors, for the purpose of promoting a healthy environment and sustainable economic development.

In March 1994, it was restructured so as to function collaboratively with the UNDP, UNEP and World Bank as a mechanism for financing the costs associated with global environmental externalities in four areas, namely: climate change, biodiversity, international waters, and the ozone layer.

In October 2002, two additional areas were added: land degradation and persistent organic pollutants, or POPs.

Of the three implementing agencies, the World Bank helps its member countries, by mobilizing GEF resources, to preserve their biodiversity and manage it sustainably, to reduce greenhouse gases, to take climate change into account, to manage international waters, and to reduce their emissions of substances that damage the ozone layer. Thus, it supports sub-regional projects in which Mali is involved and that are related to the integrated management of the waters of the Niger and Senegal Rivers.

Four current projects dealing with biodiversity conservation and climate change are receiving funding totaling over US\$ 20 million.

Important areas such as desertification, damage to the ozone layer, land degradation and persistent organic pollutants are still not being adequately addressed and an enormous investment potential remains underexploited.

This is why we feel that environmental issues must increasingly be integrated into national policies, strategies and programs, so that neglected areas can benefit from GEF funding.

In addition, the decentralization underway in Mali is an appropriate framework for the integrated management of environmental issues.

We are convinced that, once you have understood and discussed GEF procedures during this workshop, you will arrive at a strategic approach to environmental issues in Mali and obtain an appropriate mobilization of GEF funds.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I would like to conclude by thanking the Malian authorities and all of the partners who helped to organize this workshop.

Thank you.

**REMARKS BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION  
AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP  
ON THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND  
(May 17-19, 2005 at the Nord-Sud Hotel in Bamako)**

- Mr. Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program;
- Mr. Resident Representative of the World Bank;
- National Directors of Central Departments;
- Regional Delegates;
- Esteemed guests;
- Esteemed participants:

The work of the GEG national dialogue workshop is now over.

For three days, you have shared information on GEF, its mechanisms, its procedures, and the various actions plans under conventions covered by GEF.

The quality and relevance of your contributions, as well as the committed spirit that you demonstrated during this workshop, have yielded significant results that have just been presented to us in the summary report. I therefore congratulate you most warmly.

The mobilization of the financial resources of the Global Environmental Fund required a synergy of means and actions among all actors operating in this area. It also required the effective participation of the entire population.

You have formulated pertinent recommendations to continue disseminating information at the regional level on GEF, its mission, strategy, policies, procedures, and resources, in order to ensure that GEF helps to finance projects in Mali that accurately reflect national priorities in the area of environmental protection, and to facilitate the participation of national stakeholders.

Rest assured that all of your recommendations will be taken into account as reflection continues regarding the mobilization of the resources needed to protect our environment.

As for you, the experts of the GEF Secretariat, World Bank and Regional Coordination, I would like to congratulate you very sincerely and warmly for your excellent pedagogical support, which gives us every reason to be pleased and hopeful regarding the continuation of activities over the next few years. We shall remain receptive to your ideas and would appreciate any recommendations you may have in the future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Participants:

Allow me to congratulate the team of organizers for the quality of their work and especially for their availability and foresight.

I cannot conclude my remarks without reiterating my heartfelt thanks to the Global Environmental Fund for its financial support, as well as to all our development partners who, through their collaborative spirit, help to protect our country's environment.

To those participants who do not live in Bamako, I wish you a safe journey back to your homes and families, and I hereby declare the GEF National Dialogue Workshop to be closed.

Thank you.

**REMARKS OF MR. JOSEPH BYLL-CATARIA,  
RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UNDP  
on the occasion of the  
launch of Operational Phase III of the SGP/GEF  
Closing Ceremony of the GEF National Dialogue Workshop  
Nord-Sud Hotel, May 19, 2005**

Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation;  
Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Economy and Finance;  
Mr. Resident Representative of the World Bank;  
Mr. Representative of the GEF Secretariat;  
Ladies and Gentlemen representing the Government Agencies;  
Ladies and Gentlemen representing the technical departments, civil society and the private sector;  
Ladies and Gentlemen representing the NGOs;

Workshop participants:

This ceremony gives me a welcome opportunity to inform you that one of the essential missions of the UNDP is to support the Government's efforts at sustainable development.

The Small Grant Program of the Global Environmental Fund, better known as the SGP/GEF, was initiated throughout the world in 1992 by the UNDP. Its goal is to help NGOs and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to incorporate environmental concerns into all development activities, particularly in the thematic areas of interest to the Global Environmental Fund – that is to say, the themes that you have examined in some depth over the past three days.

Mali, it should be pointed out, was one of the first countries to benefit from the Program, under a pilot phase launched in 1993. Since then, over US\$ 2 million have been invested, with remarkable results, in over 190 community-level projects in Mali, all themes combined.

The Operational Phase III (OP3) that I am pleased to launch with you today, though, did require some important strategic modifications that all country programs must support and that I'd like to explain a bit. Indeed, implementation of the OP3 requires that each country adhere to five basic criteria:

Emphasis on impact: a country's entire project portfolio must be determined from the outset, assessed properly and communicated on a regular basis.

Geographic and thematic focus in the interest of more targeted impact, which means that projects must be less scattered so that synergy and critical masse are achieved more quickly. The focus may be geographic, thematic, or a combination of both.

Mobilization of co-financing resources: this is a theme requiring considerable effort so that initiatives undertaken by GEF's Micro-Financing Program can be implemented on a larger scale, replicated, and supported.

Enhanced sustainability: all projects approved by the Micro-Financing Program (MFP) must present a clear strategy for sustainability. The importance of this question was emphasized during your discussions.

And, finally, enhanced synergy between the program and other programs.

Thus, through these symbolic grants, the UNDP aims to enhance the ability of development actors to show that, where the global environment is concerned, even small local initiatives can play a significant role.

Mr. Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation,

Esteemed guests,

Esteemed grant recipients,

The GEF mechanism, and more specifically GEF's Small Grant Program, should be seen as a financing option that reconciles national development concerns with national and local environmental issues.

This is why, beyond this symbolic launch ceremony for Operational Phase III, I see the commitment of all those who were on hand for the Workshop, and also of the 10 beneficiary NGOs, as an optimal and synergetic contribution to sustainable environmental management.

I therefore wish every success to this first group of NGOs that have been able to mobilize a total of one hundred ninety-one million seven hundred sixty-eight thousand eight hundred ninety-five CFA francs (CFAF 191,768,895.00), thereby demonstrating their spirit of initiative.

I am sure that, with the commitment, support and help of local communities, the results expected from the projects for which we are about to sign project agreements will be a valuable contribution to environmental preservation.

Thank you.

## ANNEX 3

### Terms of Reference of Working Groups

Participants are asked to separate themselves into three thematic groups:

**GROUP 1: BIODIVERSITY (TIMBUKTU ROOM)**

**GROUP 2: CLIMATE CHANGE, POPS, OZONE LAYER (GOUNDAM ROOM)**

**GROUP 3: INTERNATIONAL WATERS AND LAND DEGRADATION (TAOUDÉNIT ROOM)**

Each group must designate:

- 1 chairman; and
- 1 rapporteur.

National experts who gave talks on sectoral policies and action plans, as well as the experts from the GEF Secretariat, will serve as resource persons.

Each group must:

1. identify, within their assigned thematic area, 4 or 5 priority intervention themes to be included in a triennial GEF program for Mali. The choice of these themes must take into account interventions that are already underway, GEF's strategic focus, and the prospects for incorporating said program into the Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework.
2. identify 3 or 4 measures to be taken or arrangements to be made in order to extract from these intervention themes a number of projects eligible for GEF financing.
3. make 2 or 3 suggestions regarding the establishment of a mechanism for communication, coordination and effective monitoring of the main animators of the program (e.g., policy focal point, operational focal point, focal points responsible for conventions covered by GEF, implementing agencies, particularly UNDP, World Bank and UNEP, etc.) with a view to creating conditions more conducive to better exploitation of GEF funding opportunities.

## **ANNEX 4**

### **SUMMARY REPORT OF WORK OF THEMATIC GROUPS**

#### **REPORT OF GROUP 1: BIODIVERSITY**

**CHAIRMAN:** Hamion Hawa Diallo (Mopti Regional Assembly)

**RAPPORTEUR:** Abdoulaye Maiga (CAFO – Bamako)

**RESOURCE PERSONS :** Dr. Alamir Sinna Touré and Bakary Touré

#### **I. PRIORITY THEMES:**

- 1) conservation of medicinal plants
- 2) conservation of particular ecosystems (Gourma, Niger Delta, Baoulé, Bafing, etc.)
- 3) preservation and conservation of plant and animal species of economic value for Mali
- 4) capacity-building in the area of sustainable management of ecosystems and of biological resources.

#### **II. MEASURES REQUIRED FOR EMERGENCE OF A GEF PROJECT**

- 1) Identification of key actors (experts) able to make the themes operational
- 2) Human resource development (identified experts)
- 3) Development of projects eligible for GEF funding.

#### **III. SUGGESTIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A MECHANISM FOR COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION AND EFFECTIVE MONITORING**

- Stimulation and enhancement of collaborative frameworks for focal points within the Interministerial Committee, Consultative Committee of various experts of ministerial departments for program monitoring and coordination;
- Decentralization of information on GEF and on financing mechanisms.

#### **GROUP 2: CLIMATE CHANGE (POPs, OZONE LAYER)**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mme. Konaté

**RAPPORTEUR:** Abdoulay Traouré

**RESOURCE PERSONS:** Birama Diarra (meteorology); Abdoulaye Bayogo; Dr. Modibo Sacko.

#### **I. PRIORITY INTERVENTIONS, BY AREA OR THEME**

##### **AGRICULTURE**

- 1) Drought-resistant varieties;
- 2) Adoption of new cropping systems;
- 3) Diversification of production;
- 4) Construction of water control infrastructures;
- 5) Agro-meteorological assistance.

## **HEALTH**

- 1) creation of safe water points;
- 2) IEC for hygiene and sanitation;
- 3) Improved food availability;
- 4) Enhancement of intervention capacity.

## **FISHERIES/FLORA/FAUNA/LIVESTOCK**

- 1) development of fish farming;
- 2) improvement of fishing techniques;
- 3) development of fodder crops;
- 4) increase in number of pastoral wells;
- 5) rational use of pasturelands;
- 6) development of intensive livestock production;
- 7) development of animal product processing infrastructures;
- 8) upgrading of the production stream;
- 9) reforestation;
- 10) development of natural forests and fauna;
- 11) creation of protected areas;
- 12) modification/enforcement of legislative and regulatory texts.

## **ENERGY**

- 1) controlled use of energy and energy conservation;
- 2) enhanced energy production capacity;
- 3) promotion of renewable energies;
- 4) promotion of fuel alternatives to wood and charcoal.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

- 1) strengthening of the early warning system;
- 2) promotion of methods of capturing runoff;
- 3) exploitation of groundwater resources;
- 4) protection and improvement of the quality of water resources.

## **II. MEASURES REQUIRED FOR EMERGENCE OF A GEF PROJECT**

- 1) provision of information on GEF mechanisms;
- 2) capacity-building for development of GEF-eligible projects;
- 3) capitalization on GEF accomplishments.

## **III. SUGGESTIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A MECHANISM FOR COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION AND EFFECTIVE MONITORING**

- 1) Re-energize the collaborative framework for focal points;
- 2) Organize training and outreach workshops at the regional (local) level;
- 3) Promote use of the website at the level of the Technical Secretariat (PTS).

## **GROUP 3: LAND DEGRADATION AND INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

### **I. STRATEGIC THEMES**

#### **-INTERNATIONAL WATERS:**

<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	<b>STRATEGIC THEMES</b>
1. siltation of rivers	De-silting of rivers and watercourses
2. degradation of riverbanks	Stabilization of banks
3. infestation w/ invasive plants (e.g., water hyacinth)	Removal of invasive plants (e.g., water hyacinth)
4. water pollution through liquid and solid waste	Anti-pollution efforts
5. Poor control of surface water and ground water	Control of surface water and ground water supplies

#### **LAND DEGRADATION:**

<b>CONSTRAINTS</b>	<b>STRATEGIC THEMES</b>
1. Reforestation	Efforts to combat deforestation and drought
2. Loss of soil fertility	Restoration of soil fertility
3. overgrazing/ excessive pruning	Recuperation of degraded lands
4. brush fires	Recuperation of degraded lands
5. land pollution	Efforts to combat land pollution

## **II. REQUIRED MEASURES**

- 1) Dissemination of workshop results at the regional level by regional delegates;
- 2) Establishment of regional committees/ collaborative frameworks for development of project ideas based on strategic themes;
- 3) Enhancement of capacities of members of collaborative framework;
- 4) Proposal of project briefs.

## **III. SUGGESTIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A MECHANISM FOR COMMUNICATION, COORDINATION AND EFFECTIVE MONITORING**

- 1) Strengthening existing collaborative framework within PTS for focal points responsible for conventions. Frequency, participation of resource persons and structures (policy focal point, UNDP, WB, etc.);
- 2) Enhance intervention capacities of GEF Operational Focal Point;
- 3) Establish committee for project examination and monitoring.

**ANNEX 4**

**GEF NATIONAL DIALOGUE WORKSHOP  
MAY 17 – 19, 2005, NORD-SUD HOTEL, BAMAKO  
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

<b>N°</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
1	Thierno Seydou DIARRA	<i>Haut Conseil des Collectivités</i> (Local Collectivities Council)
2	Amadou DIALLO	Technical Adviser/MEA
3	Ibrahim MAIGA	Technical Adviser/ MEA
4	Issa Youssouf MAGASSA	Ministry of Economy & Finance
5	Adama BAGAYOKO	NGO: Action/Environment
6	Almoustapha El Hadji DICKO	Directorate for International Cooperation
7	Stéphan BOUJU	French Cooperation
8	Tidiani COULIBALY	National Directorate for Nature Conservation
9	Famousa BAGAYOKO	National Directorate for Sanitation, Pollution and Pest Control
10	Bougouzanga GOITA	Niger River Basin Agency
11	Pierre DIALLO	National Directorate for Territorial Collectivities
12	Mme. Fatoumata KEITA	Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework
13	Oumar DEMBELE	Poverty Reduction Strategy Framework
14	Modibo CISSE	Focal Point, Convention on Biodiversity
15	Birama DIARRA	Focal Point, UNFCCC
16	Kadiatou DIALLO	FODESA
17	Bether KONE	Focal Point, Cartagena Protocol
18	Théra LAMINE	Focal Point, Stockholm Convention
19	Modibo SACKO	Focal Point, Montreal Convention
20	Soumana TIMBO	Focal Point, Ramsar Convention
21	Ibrahima A. TRAORE	Chair, UNESCO
22	Khassoum DIEYE	Sahel Institute
23	Mohamed KABA	GEF Small Grants Program
24	Aissata MAIGA	GEF Small Grants Program
25	Saidou OUATTARA	Institute for Rural Economics
26	KONATE Sountou DIAWARA	National Directorate for Industry
27	CISSE Hawa SOW	GCOZA
28	Mohamed B. DICKO	National Center for Scientific and Technical Research
29	Messa Oud LAHBIB	Institute for Training & Applied Research
30	Abdoulaye Ladjji GUINDO	Environmental Communications Network
31	Sékou SANGARE	Association of Malian Municipalities
32	Soumaïla COULIBALY	Malian Agency for Rural Electrification
33	Seydou Mamadou DEMBELE	Department of Traditional Medicine/INRSP
34	Dr. TAMBOURA EL HADJI	Permanent Assembly of Malian Chambers of Agriculture
35	Dr. Yahaya KANE	AGIR Association
36	Moussa CAMARA	Association of Practitioners of Traditional Medicine

37	Hamala KEITA	Coordinating Committee for NGO Interventions (CCA-ONG)
38	Sidi DIABATE	Secretariat for Coordination of NGOs (SECO-ONG)
39	Noel DIARRA	Malian Environmental Law Network
40	Abdoulaye Ahmadou MAIGA	Women's Organization Collective ( <i>Collectif des Associations et Organisations féminines, CAFO</i> )
41	Ousmane OUATTARA	Malifolkcenter
42	Mme. Aida M'bo DEMBELE	United Nations Development Program
43	Modibo KONATE	"Essor" (newspaper)
44	Ramata TEMBELY	"Independent" (newspaper)
45	Mohamed DIARRA	Radio Chaîne II
46	Marie-Thérèse GUILAVOGUI	Radio Guintan
47	Célia Dédé d'ALMEIDA	Radio Klédu
48	Hamadoun TOURE	Malian Radio/Television (ORDTM)
49	Akougnon DOLO	Perm. Tech. Secretariat/Institutional Framework for Mgmt of Environmental Issues (STP/CIGQE)
50	Moussa DEMBELE	STP/CIGQE
51	Ismaëla ALASSANE	Ministry of Industry & Commerce
52	Mohamed THIAM	STP/CIGQE
53	Toumany DEMBELE	STP/CIGQE
54	Bakary TOURE	STP/CIGQE
55	Mamary DIARRA	STP/CIGQE
56	Fousseyni DIAKITE	STP/CIGQE
57	Akhamy MAIGA	Niger River Action – NGO
58	Mohamed L. KALLE	Indigenous Vegetation Management Project
59	Oumar Salim M. KABA	STP/CIGQE
60	Mamadou GAKOU	STP/CIGQE
61	Dr. Alamir Sinna TOURE	STP/CIGQE
62	Oumou TOURE	STP/CIGQE
63	Cheickna SIDIBE	DONKO – NGO
64	Issa CAMARA	Sahel Visas – NGO
65	Hamadoun YATTARA	REDEVI – NGO
66	Abdoulaye TRAOURE	STP/CIGQE
67	Alkaya MAHAMADOU	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Timbuktu
68	Daouda KASSE	NGO Regional Coordination, Mopti
69	Hamidi Hama DIALLO	Regional Assembly, Mopti
70	Alkaidi TOURE	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Mopti
71	Mohamed Ag SINDIBLA	Regional Assembly, Timbuktu
72	Mohamed AGHAMATY	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Timbuktu
73	Bébane DIARRA	Regional Assembly, Koulikoro
74	Mamadou KEITA	NGO Regional Coordination, Koulikoro
75	Mamadou L. DRAME	Regional Assembly, Ségou
76	Madani SISSOKO	Regional Youth Council, Ségou

77	Souvéibou MANGANE	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Kayes
78	Modibo SAMAKE	Regional Directorate for Sanitation, Pollution and Pest Control, Ségou
79	Adama SAMAKE	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Kidal
80	Boukary KANE	Regional Directorate for Nature Conservation, Koulikoro
81	DICKO Agaichatou MAIGA	Collective of Women's Assoc. & Orgs, Timbuktu
82	DEMBELE Mariam SIDIBE	'Muso Dembe' Center, Kayes
83	Mathieu C. KOUMOIN	UNDP/GEF, Dakar
84	Mme. Song LI	World Bank, Washington
85	Klhaus	GEF, Washington
86	Moctar TOURE	GEF, Washington