Dear SCF Trust Fund Committee:

You will recall that in May, the Trust Fund Committee approved the design document for the Program for Scaling Up Renewable Energy in Low-Income Countries (SREP) and the following decision:

The Trust Fund Committee reviewed document SCF/TFC.3/5, Scaling-Up Renewable Energy Program Design Document, and welcomes the work that has been undertaken to design the SCF targeted program on Scaling-Up Renewable Energy in Low Income Countries.

The Committee approves the program design proposed in the attachment to the Co-Chairs Summary on the Consultation on SCF Program on Scaling-Up Renewable Energy in Low Income Countries (Paris, April 29, 2009).

The Administrative Unit is requested to circulate by mail a proposal for a SREP results framework, currently under preparation by a working group, to the SCF Trust Fund Committee for its endorsement as soon as it is available. Thereafter, the Administrative Unit should submit the proposal to the SREP Sub-Committee for its approval.

The Committee requests the Administrative Unit to work with potential contributor countries to mobilize resources to support the program and to take steps towards the establishment of a SREP Sub-Committee once pledges sufficient to meet the targeted funding level for the program have been received. Such steps should include:

a. the organization of a self selection process for representatives to serve as members of the Sub-Committee consistent with paragraph 30 of the design document. For purposes of identifying representatives from eligible recipient countries, the Administrative Unit is requested to work through the offices of the Executive Directors of the World Bank to solicit nominations for members of the Sub-Committee and to hold consultations, on a regional basis, with representatives from eligible recipient countries to select the members. For purposes of identifying representatives from contributor countries, the Administrative Unit is requested to invite contributors to identify members for the Sub-Committee when pledges are made; b. the Administrative Unit should circulate to the SCF Trust Fund Committee, for approval by mail, the proposed composition of the Sub-Committee that results from the self selection process; c. once the Sub-Committee membership is approved by the SCF Trust Fund Committee, the Administrative Unit should convene an organizational meeting of the Sub-Committee to agree upon its program of work and to initiate steps to appoint the SREP Expert Group.

As of December 14, 2009, USD 260 million has been pledged for the SREP. As the pledges to the SREP now exceed the minimum funding level of USD 250 million established by the Trust Fund Committee, we would like to move forward in establishing the SREP Sub-Committee.
Based upon consultations among contributor countries as well as consultations among eligible recipient countries, the following have been proposed as members of the SREP Sub-Committee: Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Armenia, Bangladesh, Nicaragua, Solomon Islands, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen.

During these consultations, the following was recognized:

a) that the proposed recipient country seats on SREP Sub-Committee are representative of the six operational regions of the World Bank;

b) that the SREP design document provides for an equal number of representatives from contributor countries and recipient countries to be members of the Sub-Committee. Nevertheless, it is recommended that all six members nominated to represent recipient countries should be permitted to take their seats even though at present there are only five contributor country members nominated for the SREP Sub-Committee;

c) that paragraph 27 of the SCF Governance Framework provides that Sub-Committee Members should serve for one year terms. Recognizing that the Rules of Procedure for the SCF Trust Fund Committee provides that a year term shall run from the date immediately after the last day of a Partnership Forum meeting until the last day of the next Partnership Forum, it is recommended that the initial term of SREP Sub-Committee members should run until the last day of the Partnership Forum in 2011.

Taking into account the above, it is proposed that the SCF Trust Fund Committee approved the following decision by mail:

Further to its decision establishing the Program for Scaling Up Renewable Energy in Low-Income Countries (SREP) as a targeted program under the Strategic Climate Fund, the SCF Trust Fund Committee:

a) welcomes the pledges that have been made to the SREP and notes that the pledges exceed the minimum level established for initiating the operationalization of the program;

b) agrees to the establishment of the SREP Sub-Committee with the following membership:

    Armenia, Bangladesh, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Solomon Islands, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen

c) takes note that there is an open seat for a contributor country which should be filled through consultations among the contributor countries as soon as an additional contributor pledges resources to the SREP;

d) agrees that the term for the initial members of the SREP Sub-Committee should run from the first meeting of the Sub-Committee until the last day of the Partnership Forum in 2011;

e) requests the CIF Administrative Unit to organize the first meeting of the Sub-Committee at the beginning of February 2010; and

f) requests the Sub-Committee and the CIF Administrative Unit to report
regularly to the SCF Trust Fund Committee on the work undertaken by the Sub-Committee.

If we have not received an objection to this decision by January 22, 2010, the decision will be approved, and the Administrative Unit will invite the Sub-Committee members to its first meeting scheduled for February 3, 2010.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bliss-Guest  
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