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United Nations Development Programme

MINUTES OF

Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting

"Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report and the Combined Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report of Armenia to the UNFCCC"
UNDP-GEF Project

26 July 2023

The virtual LPAC meeting was conducted through e-mail circulation on 26 July 2023. The Project Document and power point presentation in English and Armenian with key information about the project content and implementation was provided to the LPAC members.

LPAC members:

Natia Natsvlishvili	Resident Representative, UNDP in Armenia
Hakob Simidyan	Minster of Environment, GEF Operational and Political Focal Point, UNFCCC Focal Point
Gayane Gabrielyan	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, UNFCCC Focal Point
Tigran Gabrielyan	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment
Hakob Vardanyan	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure
Arman Khojoyan	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy
Nelly Baghdasaryan	Member of State Council on Statistics
Kamo Sargsyan	Member of Public Services Regulatory Commission
Levon Azizyan	Director of "Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center" SNCO of the Ministry of Environment
Ruzanna Grigoryan	Head of International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Environment
Nona Budoyan	Head of Climate Policy Department, Ministry of Environment
Hovhannes Ghazaryan	Climate, Environment and Resilience Portfolio Manager, UNDP in Armenia
Diana Harutyunyan	Climate Change Programme Coordinator, UNDP in Armenia

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Project overview:

The objective of the project is to assist the country in the preparation and submission of its 1st Biennial Transparency Report and Combined 5th National Communication (NC) and 2nd Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) of Armenia to the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC for the fulfilment of its obligations to the Convention and Paris Agreement under Decision 2/CP. 17 par. 41 and Decision 18/CMA.1 while contributing to enhanced accountability and transparency of the reporting through strengthening national institutional and technical capacities.

The Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (USD 1,233,000) with the duration of September 2023 - November 2027 period and will be implemented through the following 6 components which are corresponding to the key reporting requirements:

1. Improvement and update of national GHG inventory for 1990-2022 and for 1990-2024 according to the needs.
2. Strategies and mitigation measures implemented to comply with the updated NDCs.
3. Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation measures reported.
4. Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9-11 of the Paris Agreement and other relevant information, including gender considerations and supplemental NC chapters (research and systemic observation; and education, training, and public awareness) compiled, updated, and reported.
5. First BTR, National Inventory Report for 1990-2022, Fifth NC and combined with Second BTR and the National Inventory Report for 1990-2024 are compiled, edited, approved and submitted to the UNFCCC; knowledge management activities conducted.
6. Project regularly monitored, inception workshop organized, lessons learned compiled and disseminated.

The Project is coherent with national and local development priorities, is linked to SDG 13 on Climate Action, as well as to UNDP SP, CPD and UNSDCF. The Project goals are in line with the Armenia's Nationally Determined Contributions approved by Government's Decision No. 610-L on 22 April 2021.

The project will be implemented under a NIM modality by the "Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center" State Non-Commercial Organization (SNCO) of the Ministry of the Environment to act as an Implementing Partner.

LPAC Comments and Reflections:

The LPAC members took note of the Project's management arrangements and governance framework, Project Board structure and reporting framework, Results and Resources Framework, Monitoring and Evaluation plan, gender mainstreaming parameter, annual work plan and budget. Project risk analysis and quality assurance were also provided in detail in the Project presentation, as well as in the Project Document and its Annexes.

Public Services Regulatory Commission suggested to coordinate planned actions related to energy sector policy and measures assessment with the USAID-implemented project, related to revision of the RA Law on Energy and Law on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.

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Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center SNCO appreciated UNDP support in preparation of the Project Document and expressed readiness to cooperate closely with UNDP and all key stakeholders to ensure a smooth kickstart of the Project.

Ministry of Environment informed that since August 2023, the Minister of Environment had assumed the function of the National Focal Point of the UNFCCC, hence the Minister will nominate the Deputy Minister of Environment for that position of National Coordinator and the Steering Committee member.

It was also suggested to include in the scope of the functions of the Steering Committee that the procurement plans, Terms of References of experts and companies, including the selection procedures, should be proceeded upon receiving "no objection" notice by the Steering Committee within seven calendar days.

Conclusions:

In conclusion, the LPAC welcomed the efforts put together to initiate the Project and endorsed signing the Project Document considering suggestions made.

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Natia Natsvlishvili
UNDP Resident Representative in Armenia, LPAC Co-Chair

Hakob Simidyan
Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia, LPAC Co-Chair