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## CAFI Executive Board Decision

Mandate for the CAFI Executive Board representatives in FONAREDD's Technical Steering Committee to grant an exception to the Operation Manual and to the Decision EB.2023.26 to approve a third cost extension of the support project to the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat until February 28, 2025.

Adopted by e-mail on 13.11.2024

EB.2024.47

### Considering:

- The CAFI Executive Board [decision EB.2023.26](#) approved on September 16, 2023, stating that no extension, at or without cost, will be granted by the Board to projects that have repeatedly failed to comply to the reporting deadlines and format set out in the CAFI Operation Manual.
- The non-submission on time of the annual report for the year 2023 of the Support Project to the FONAREDD executive secretariat, due on March 30, 2024, and its non-conformity with the CAFI Manual of Operations.
- The CAFI Executive Board [decision EB.2024.27](#) approved on August 12, 2024, granting a 2<sup>nd</sup> no-cost extension of the phase 1 of the support project to FONAREDD Executive Secretariat until October 31, 2024.
- The non-conformity of the project's mid-year 2024 activity report submitted on July 31, 2024, which therefore does not provide sufficient basis to evaluate the project performance.
- The [draft decision submitted by the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat](#) to its Steering Committee on October 23, 2024, requesting a 3<sup>rd</sup> cost extension of the phase 1 of the support project to FONAREDD Executive Secretariat until December 31, 2024.

### The executive board:

1. Authorizes on an exceptional basis the CAFI Executive Board representatives in the FONAREDD's Technical Steering Committee to (i) grant an exception from the CAFI Operation Manual and its [decision EB.2023.26](#) and (ii) to approve a 3<sup>rd</sup> and last cost extension of the current support project to the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat until February 28, 2025.

2. Asks the CAFI Executive Board representatives in the FONAREDD's Technical Steering Committee to add in the draft Decision N°01/10/24 that no additional funding will be granted to this project by CAFI and to encourage the finalization and approval of the new project document for the period 2025-2026 before the end of February 2025 based on the comments that will be submitted by CAFI
3. Requests CAFI representatives in the FONAREDD's Technical Steering Committee to approve the disbursement of 779 929 USD, comprising the remaining balance of the SE-FONAREDD Support project, Phase 1 (668 964 USD) and an additional 110 965 USD to cover this last cost extension until February 2025.
4. Requests CAFI representatives in the FONAREDD's Technical Steering committee to recommend to UNDP together with the Ministry of Finance and FONAREDD secretariat to rationalize the costs structure to ensure that the allocated amount is sufficient to cover the core expenditures of the FONAREDD-Executive Secretariat until February 28, 2025 as it is likely that the instruction of the new project document for the next phase of support to FONAREDD will not be finalized by end January 2025.
5. Requests CAFI Executive Board representatives within FONAREDD's Technical Steering Committee to request to UNDP, in accordance with [CAFI Operations Manual](#), to:
  - operationally and financially close the project by February 28, 2025,
  - submit the 2024 annual financial report to MPTF-O via the web-interface UNEX by February 28, 2025,
  - submit to the MPTF-O and the CAFI Secretariat a 2024 annual narrative report for the project by March 30, 2025, compliant with CAFI reporting template,
  - ensure that the final audited financial report is submitted by May 31, 2025,
  - process the reimbursement of the amount transferred to FONAREDD under this third and final cost extension for funds unspent as of February 28, 2025.