



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.30/4  
10 October 2017

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Thirtieth meeting  
Bonn, Germany, 12-13 October 2017

Agenda item 5.

## **REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE ACCREDITATION PANEL**

## WORK OF THE ACCREDITATION PANEL

1. The Accreditation Panel (the Panel) continued its work reviewing both new and existing applications. On 19 September 2017 the Panel held its twenty-sixth meeting at the secretariat's offices in Washington, D.C. The meeting was preceded by the Accreditation Panel Workshop held on 18 September which provided an opportunity for the Panel Members to exchange views on relevant matters to the accreditation and re-accreditation process. Two former Chairs of the Accreditation Panel also participated in the workshop. The Chair of the Accreditation Panel Chebet Maikut (Uganda, Non-Annex I Parties), Vice-Chair Yuka Greiler (Switzerland, Western European and Others Group) presided over the meeting. The Panel and the secretariat expressed great appreciation to the outgoing Panel member Bert Keuppens who completed his term for his substantial contribution to the accreditation process of the Fund. In addition, a new Panel member, Daniel Nelson, participated to the AP Workshop and will formally be welcomed at the next AP meeting.

2. For the twenty-sixth Panel meeting, the secretariat has received two new complete accreditation applications. The Panel has continued reviewing seven re-accreditation applications (seven NIEs) and the applications of twelve potential NIEs and two potential RIEs that were previously reviewed but required additional information for the Panel to make its recommendations. After considering the recommendation by the Panel, the Board intersessionally approved re-accreditation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO as MIE and re-accreditation of the Agence pour le Développement (ADA) of Morocco as NIE respectively by its decisions B.29-30/12 and B.29-30/14. The respective summary of the review can be found in Annex I of each aforementioned decisions.

3. By the time of the finalization of the report, the Panel concluded the review of one application of accreditation and recommended an accreditation of:

- (i) the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) – Tanzania  
National Implementing Entity NIE

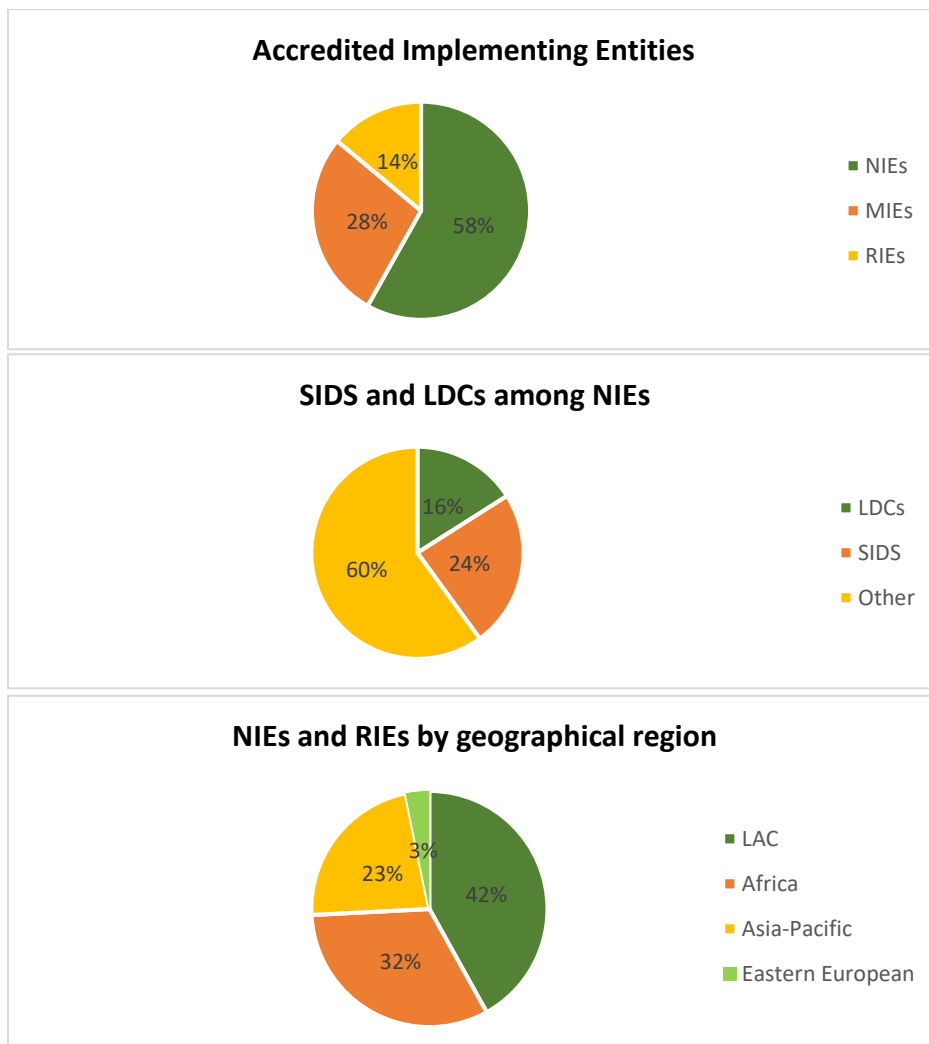
4. Fourteen applications (twelve for potential NIEs and two for potential RIE) are currently under review by the Panel as per the list below. For purposes of confidentiality, only the assigned code is used to report on the status of each Implementing Entity's application.

- 1) National Implementing Entity NIE044
- 2) National Implementing Entity NIE046
- 3) National Implementing Entity NIE049
- 4) National Implementing Entity NIE057
- 5) National Implementing Entity NIE064
- 6) National Implementing Entity NIE066
- 7) National Implementing Entity NIE107
- 8) National Implementing Entity NIE112
- 9) National Implementing Entity NIE113

- 10) National Implementing Entity NIE133
- 11) National Implementing Entity NIE134
- 12) National Implementing Entity NIE136
- 13) Regional Implementing Entity RIE008
- 14) Regional Implementing Entity RIE016

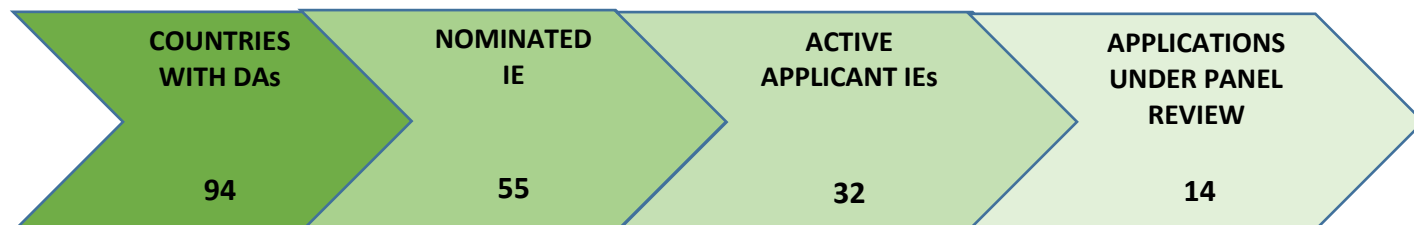
**GENERAL TRENDS**

5. As at the date of this report, the total number of accredited implementing entities amounts to 43: 25 NIEs, six RIEs and 12 MIEs. Among 25 NIEs, four NIEs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and six NIEs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) were accredited. Out of 43 accredited implementing entities of the Fund, 13 have been re-accredited: two NIEs, one RIE and 10 MIEs. With respect to the geographic coverage for the 25 NIEs, five NIEs are from Asia-Pacific region, eight NIEs are from Africa region, 11 NIEs are from Latin American and the Caribbean region, and one NIE is from Eastern Europe.



## ACCREDITATION PIPELINE

6. As at the date of the report, the Fund has received 119 letters of assigned Designated Authorities (DAs). The following chart provides an update on the current accreditation pipeline which does not include re-accreditation applications, with a detailed description of each figure:



- COUNTRIES WITH DESIGNATED AUTHORITIES (DAs):** Of 151 Non-Annex I parties to the Kyoto Protocol, 119 countries (79%) have appointed a Designated Authority to the Fund. As 25 countries have an accredited NIE, this number has been excluded in the figure for Accreditation Pipeline.
- NOMINATED IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES (IEs):** There are total of 86 nominated NIEs and RIEs, of which 25 NIEs and 6 RIEs have been accredited, and therefore, 31 has been deducted from the figure for Accreditation Pipeline.
- ACTIVE APPLICANT IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES:** The number of active applications of NIEs, RIEs, and MIEs on the Accreditation Workflow that are preparing or updating their application.
- APPLICATIONS UNDER PANEL REVIEW:** The number of applications under review by the Accreditation Panel.

**STATUS OF APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW**

	TIME OF FIRST APPLICATION	REFERENCE FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION	CURRENT STATUS
<u>COMPLETED APPLICATION</u>			
NIE049	Apr-13	AFB/B.29-30/2	<p>The entity was established in 1983 under the Act of 1983 and re-established as a body corporate in 2004. It became fully operational in 2015. The entity sees its mission as to promote environmental management in the country through coordination, facilitation, awareness raising, enforcement, assessment, monitoring and research. The Director-General, as the chief executive officer, is responsible for the day- to - day management. The total workforce of the Council is around 155 and the staff is organized in four Directorates. Government subventions were the main source of income and more recently the entity received the authority to collect fees at the rate of 1/10th of 1 % on assets for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). This makes the agency for a part budget autonomous.</p> <p>The applicant uploaded its application, including some sixty documents, into the workflow for review by the Panel on June 2013. The initial review was completed in December 2013. Additional information was requested and followed up by periodic discussions over the period 2014-2016 via Skype or teleconferencing calls. This allowed the applicant to better understand the requirements for accreditation and the Panel to assess the full potential and capability of the applicant. It also provided the applicant an opportunity to document and further strengthen its procedures.</p> <p>The accreditation process itself was appreciated by the applicant as a process which was useful for its own capacity building and for strengthening its procedures. In May 2017, a field visit by a Panel member and one</p>

			<p>staff from the Secretariat, was conducted to assess the latest developments and capabilities including the use of new and updated manuals, procedures, guidelines, and their application in projects. During this visit discussions were also held with donors, implementation partners and two ongoing projects were visited. As part of this dialogue some new procedures, manuals and guidelines were put in place. These were approved in final form by the Board of the entity in June 2017. In total, some 250 documents were examined by the Panel.</p> <p>3. The Panel concludes that the entity meets the requirements of the fiduciary standards and those of the environmental and social policy and gender policy. The Panel has based this conclusion on the extensive dialogue, the field visit, the examination of documents, the discussions with implementation partners and the visit of two projects.</p> <p>A more detailed analysis of this application is available in Annex I.</p>
<b><u>EXISTING APPLICATIONS</u></b>			
NIE044	Jan-13	AFB/B.29-30/2	<p>Since AP23 meeting in August 2016, there has been no progress. Following the secretariat request to the DA on March 9, 2016, to confirm the interest of the NIE to pursue the accreditation process, the applicant responded on 29 July 2016 indicating its willingness to continue the process. Due to no progress from the applicant side, the Secretariat sent follow-up emails in August and September 2017.</p>
NIE046	Dec-12	AFB/B.29-30/2	<p>On 29 December 2016, the entity submitted the requested documents/information, which enabled the Panel to resume the review process after a long dormant period. A conference call among the Secretariat, the Panel and the applicant was held in May 2017.</p> <p>Applicant's submission of the requested information and documentation is still pending. The Secretariat sent follow-up emails to the applicant in June, August and September 2017.</p>

NIE057	Feb-14	AFB/B.29-30/2	The challenge that the Applicant is facing is its lack of history of non-credit (grant) project funding and implementation. After the AP22 meeting, the secretariat communicated with the Applicant to facilitate Applicant's understanding on the pending requirements for accreditation. The conference call was conducted in June 2016 between the Applicant, the Panel and the secretariat. In September 2016, the secretariat communicated again with the Applicant to facilitate understanding on the pending requirements. There has been no progress since AP23 meeting despite the efforts by the secretariat to continue communication with the entity.
NIE 064	Apr-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Upon the secretariat's follow-up email, the applicant replied on 12 January 2017 indicating that the government was undergoing institutional reform so that the NIE candidate would have the required institutional capacities and rules and procedures. The entity communicated that it would be able to resume the accreditation process once necessary steps are taken.
NIE066	Apr-15	AFB/B.29-30/2	The accreditation process is under the streamlined accreditation. The applicant has been receiving readiness support from an accredited NIE under the Fund's South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. The Applicant is a small organization with limited capacity. A conference call between the Panel and the applicant was held on April 3, 2017. The applicant informed that its next submission to the panel would take place after the outstanding information is gathered.
NIE107	Apr-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	The Panel completed and produced the second assessment of the application and communicated pending information/documents to the Applicant on 22 December 2016. In September 2017, the applicant provided some 90 additional documents. The Panel is currently reviewing these submitted documents.

NIE112	Dec-15	AFB/B.29-30/2	The applicant had received readiness supported by an AF accredited NIE under the Fund's South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. Since AP23 meeting, active communication has continued between the Applicant, the Panel, and the secretariat. The applicant submitted requested information and documentation in late May, late June, late July 2017. The Panel and the Secretariat conducted a field visit to the entity in late September 2017.
NIE113	Dec-15	AFB/B.29-30/2	The applicant is under streamlined accreditation process had received readiness support from the Fund's accredited NIE under the South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. The applicant submitted some supporting documents in June 2017, but mostly is still pending. The applicant informed the Panel and the Secretariat that they are working on a delegation of authority from the Ministry of the Environment to the entity itself related to signatory power as a legal autonomous entity.
NIE133	Feb-17	N/A	The Applicant submitted its application on 21 February 2017. Following the secretariat's screening and the re-submission of the application, currently the application is under Panel's review. Panel expects to submit its initial review results and questions the soonest.
NIE 134	Nov-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	The Applicant first submitted its application in November 2016. In March 2017 the Panel completed their initial review and communicate a list of pending questions to applicant. In May 2017 as the entity's representatives were present in DC, upon their request, the applicant had a meeting with the Panel and the Secretariat to clarify the pending gaps. In August 2017, the Panel completed their second review report and communicated to the applicant a list of pending questions. Following a conference call in September 2017 with the AP, the applicant and the Secretariat, it was agreed that a field visit will take place in late October 2017.



NIE136	Aug-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	The applicant has been receiving readiness support from the accredited NIE under the Fund's South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. The initial review and a list of pending questions and information was sent to the entity on February 2017. The applicant submitted requested information and documentation in June 2017, and the Panel provided the entity with feedbacks on the submitted information in July 2017. A facilitative conference call between the Panel and the entity was held in July 2017. After the conference call, the entity submitted additional documentation in August 2017. The Panel provided the entity with feedbacks in September 2017. Additional pending information needs to be provided by the applicant.
RIE008	Jan-14	AFB/B.29-30/2	After a two year-long dormant period, the Applicant's accreditation process resumed by submitting the requested information/documentation in December 2016. In January 2017, the Applicant submitted new supporting documents and requested a conference call to clarify some pending information, and a conference call was conducted in early March 2017. The entity submitted additional documentation in late August 2017. The Panel is currently reviewing these documents.
RIE016	Mar-17	N/A	The applicant has submitted its application in late March 2017. After screening by the Secretariat, the applicant has resubmitted the application in June 2017. The Panel has completed the initial review in August 2017. Results of the initial review and a list of pending information was communicated to the applicant in September 2017.
<b><u>RE-ACCREDITATION</u></b>			
NIE002	June-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Accreditation expired on 21 June 2016. The applicant submitted its re-accreditation application in June 2016. Despite a number of positive developments, there still exists a number of pending gaps. The Panel defers its recommendation on the entity's re-accreditation to a next meeting. The Lead Reviewer, through the facilitation of the Secretariat, will inform by phone the Applicant with detailed information on the reasons why they currently do not meet all the re-accreditation criteria.

NIE014	Sep-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Accreditation expired on 15 September 2016. The Applicant submitted the reaccreditation application in September 2016. The Panel completed its final assessment in June 2017. At its 26 <sup>th</sup> meeting the Panel is not in a position to conclude that the entity meets all the re-accreditation criteria. The Panel defers its recommendation on the entity's re-accreditation to the next Panel meeting. The entity will receive detailed information on the reasons why they currently do not meet the criteria.
NIE016	Aug-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Accreditation expired on 13 December 2016. The entity submitted re-accreditation application in August 2016. Many of the documents were in Arabic. The entity submitted some of the requested documents in English in late April 2017. The focal point of the entity has changed, and the Secretariat, Panel and the new focal point and his team of the entity had a conference call to facilitate a smooth handover of re-accreditation work. Since then, the entity submitted some of the requested information in early and late August 2017, but other requested information is still pending.
NIE020	Jul-17	N/A	Accreditation expired on 13 December 2016. The Entity submitted its re-accreditation application in July 2017. In accordance with the AFB Board Decision B.28/38 the entity is eligible for fast-track reaccreditation process. After screening by the Secretariat, the application was sent back to the entity in August 2017. Entity re-submitted the application in August 2017. The focal point of the entity related to re-accreditation process has changed, and the Secretariat conducted a conference call with a new focal point in September 2017. The Panel is currently reviewing the submitted application
NIE029	Jun-17	N/A	Accreditation expired on 28 June 2017. The entity submitted the re-accreditation application in June 2017. In accordance with the AFB Board Decision B.28/38 the entity is eligible for fast-track reaccreditation process. The Panel completed the initial review and a list of pending information in July 2017. The entity submitted additional information in August 2017. The Panel is currently waiting for additional supporting documentation from the entity.

NIE030	Dec-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Accreditation expired on 15 March 2017. The Applicant's submitted the application for re-accreditation in December 2016. The Panel completed the initial review in June 2017. The entity submitted requested information and documentation in May and August 2017. The Panel provided the entity with feedback and a list of still pending gaps in late August 2017. The entity submitted a portion of the additional information progressively during September 2017, and the Panel reviewer is reviewing the most recently submitted documentation.
NIE031	Aug-16	AFB/B.29-30/2	Accreditation expired on 15 March 2017. It submitted re-accreditation application in mid-August 2016. In accordance with the AFB Board Decision B.28/38 the entity is eligible for fast-track reaccreditation process. Panel communicated to the applicant an interim review and a provision of a list of pending information in late March 2017. The applicant has not yet submitted the requested information.

## OTHER MATTERS

7. Date and venue for the *twenty-seventh Meeting of the Accreditation Panel*: 30–31 January 2018 in Washington D.C.

8. *Guidance for the Designated Authorities in selecting an NIE*: Following the discussion at the twenty fifth panel meeting, the Panel reviewed the existing document of "Guidelines for the DA to select an NIE" which is available on the Fund's website.<sup>1</sup> The Panel was of the view that this guideline was useful but would need to be revised emphasizing the importance of promoting the use of the guidelines by the DAs as this would facilitate the accreditation process. The update will be finalized at the next Accreditation Panel meeting in January 2018.

9. *Appreciation of the Accreditation Panel Members to the work of the secretariat*: The outgoing Panel expert member shared his view on his work experiences with the secretariat. He appreciated the secretariat's hard working, high commitment, timely support for the Panel as well as considerable efforts to maintain active communications with applicant entities. The Panel member wishes that the Board be informed of the Accreditation Panel's high appreciation for the secretariat's work related to accreditation. The Chair expressed appreciation for high quality work and strong commitment to the accreditation work of the outgoing Panel expert member.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Guidelines-for-Designated-Authorities-to-select-an-NIE.pdf>.

## **Recommendation of the Accreditation Panel**

### ***Re-accreditation process***

10. Based on the experiences on re-accreditation process, the Panel recommends that the Board request the secretariat, in collaboration with Accreditation Panel:

- (1) To reflect on the re-accreditation process in order to identify any need of updates or clarifications at the twenty-seventh meeting of the Accreditation Panel; and
- (2) To present to the Board at its thirty-first meeting, a conclusion of the Accreditation Panel's discussions on paragraph (1) and if necessary, an update on the Re-accreditation process which was adopted by the decision B. 22/3.

(Recommendation AFB/AP.26/1)

### ***Accreditation of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) of Tanzania***

11. After considering the conclusions and outcome of the review, the Accreditation Panel recommends accreditation of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) of Tanzania as a National Implementing Entity (NIE) of the Adaptation Fund.

(Recommendation AFB/AP.26/2)

## **ANNEX I: REPORT OF THE ACCREDITATION PANEL ON ITS ASSESSMENT OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEMC) OF TANZANIA AS A NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING ENTITY (NIE) OF THE ADAPTATION FUND**

**The applicant:** NEMC was established in 1983 under the NEMC Act of 1983 and re-established as a body corporate in 2004. It became fully operational in 2015. The objectives of NEMC are to: (i) undertake enforcement, compliance, review and monitoring of environmental impact assessment; (ii) facilitate public participation in environmental decision making; (iii) exercise general supervision and coordination over all matters relating to the environment. The Director-General, as the chief executive officer is responsible for the day- to -day management. Environmental Impact Assessments are an important part of its activities. The total workforce of the Council is around 155 and the staff is organized in four Directorates. Government subventions were the main source of income for the Council (NEMC), and more recently they received the authority to collect fees at the rate of 1/10th of 1 % on assets for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). This makes the agency for a part budget autonomous.

**The application:** The applicant uploaded its application, including some sixty documents, into the workflow for review by the Panel on June 2013. Additional information was requested and followed up by periodic discussions over the period 2014-2016 via Skype, teleconferencing calls or during workshops attended by staff of NEMC. During this process the applicant considerably strengthened its procedures and gained experience with the implementation of donor funded projects. The accreditation process itself was greatly appreciated by the applicant as a process which was very useful for its own capacity building and for strengthening its procedures. In May 2017, a field visit was conducted to assess the latest developments and capabilities, including a review of a number of new manuals, procedures, guidelines that were developed in draft format and used in projects. During this visit, discussions were also held with implementation partners in the field and two ongoing projects were visited. Finally, the new procedures, manuals and guidelines were formally approved by Board of NEMC in June 2017. In total, some 250 documents were examined by the Panel.

### **Financial Management and Integrity**

**Legal Status:** The 2004 Environmental Management Act of Tanzania provides the necessary evidence to demonstrate that NEMC has a legal personality, and authority to contract with the Adaptation Fund. NEMC ongoing development activities demonstrate that it has the capacity to receive funds from international donors. NEMC has powers to: (i) receive any grants, gifts, donations or endowment, (ii) make disbursements from grants, gifts, donations and endowments, and (iii) enter into associations with other bodies or organizations within and outside Tanzania. Over the last 2 years NEMC has received funds from various multilateral and bilateral sources, including GEF, DANIDA, CIDA, UNDP, IDA and USAID.

**Financial statements and project accounts:** The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and a Financial and Accounting Procedures Manual is in place to guide the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements are audited by the Controller and Auditor General of Tanzania (CAG) - or an auditing firm appointed by the CAG. The audits are conducted in accordance with International Auditing Standards. Annual audited financial statements for the past years 2011-2016 were provided. The latest financial statements - with its audit report – is for financial year 2016. The audit report is a long form report with an unqualified opinion. There were no material issues raised by the auditor in the management letter and the Auditor General commented on the satisfactory implementation of the recommendations. The project accounts are included in the financial statements and the implementation partners report that the project accounting and reporting is reliable and a strong feature of NEMC.

**Internal Audit and Audit Committee:** NEMC has an internal audit function that functionally reports to the Audit Committee and administratively to the Director General. The audit activity follows an annual internal audit plan which is risk based and the program is approved by the Audit Committee. There is proper follow-up of audit recommendations. The Audit Committee was established during the accreditation period. During the onsite visit in May 2017, evidence was provided of the establishment and functioning of the Audit Committee which is composed of Board members and outside experts knowledgeable of audit and accounting matters. Evidence was also provided of follow-up of audit recommendations. The revised Audit Committee Charter, the Internal Audit Charter and Internal Audit Manual were approved in June 2017 by the Board.

**Internal Control Framework:** The Panel noted that NEMC did not have a stand-alone documented Internal Control Framework. It was indicated that some requirements relating to Internal Control are met through Internal Audit. The management representation letter addressed to the external auditors in respect of its financial statements confirms compliance in respect of several aspects that typically constitute an Internal Control Framework. The external auditor's long-form reports discuss the different aspects of internal control, which he considers adequate. Subsequent to the mission in May 2017, the entity provided a statement of Management responsibility including Internal Control over financial reporting for FY 2015/2016. NEMC has a list of manuals covering accounting, internal audit, financial regulations, project management, environmental inspection and investigations manual, which taken as a whole and combined with the internal audit function and external audit function can be taken as a documented control and procedures framework.

**Payment and disbursement controls and the budgeting process.** The applicant indicated that based on the approved annual Work Plan and Budget, NEMC's departments submit their funding requirements. These are approved by the authorized staff (CEO/Directors/Project Coordinators), following which payments are made to the user. Procedures and controls that ensure that all payments/ disbursements (both for projects and other expenditures) are adequately documented, verified and made only for bona fide/approved purposes were provided. Finally, the financial regulations describe the procedures for managing payments/disbursements. The information provided shows the applicant has a proven and reliable payment/disbursement system.

NEMC prepares annual work plans and budgets based on its 5-year Plan and a three-year Medium Term Expenditure Framework. NEMC also indicated that budgetary reviews are conducted annually through the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). During this process, budgetary analysis of the preceding and current financial year is done. Subsequent to the visit in May 2017, the approved Strategic plan for FY 2017/2018 – 2021/2012 was provided.

### **Requisite Institutional Capacity**

**Project cycle, budget and design:** NEMC prepared Project Implementation Guidelines which were approved by the Board in 2017. The document contains a quality- at -entry review guide. NEMC also prepared a Project Management Guide summarizing all the steps to be taken and to guide the implementation of the different phases of the project cycle. In addition examples of two projects that include quality-at-entry methods were reviewed. The information provided shows evidence of NEMC's capacity in the preparation of detailed project work plans and budgets as well as monitoring of actual expenditures vs. budgets.

**Project procurement:** Strong procurement processes and controls are in place. Analyses of project expenditure versus budgets are done quarterly and during review missions. Project procurement is audited periodically.

**Project identification, preparation and approval and Quality-at-entry:** Project preparation is guided by several manuals. Project preparation, community consultation and the quality of the projects is assured by managerial staff. Capability, experience and track record for project preparation was demonstrated by NEMC during the field visit. The donors and implementation partners who were interviewed during the field visit confirmed the quality of project documents. The preparation of projects gives attention to the environmental and social risks.

**Project monitoring:** NEMC provided evidence of a project-at-risk system to flag problems that may interfere with the achievement of project objectives. Project at-risk guidelines were prepared with the support of a donor and adopted.

**Project closure and final evaluation:** A number of project closure reports examined during the accreditation were based on donors' requirements. NEMC developed its own procedures related to project closure and incorporated these into the recently developed manuals. For a major project that is managed by NEMC and monitored by a steering committee periodic evaluation and assessments reports were prepared. These demonstrate their capacity to evaluate and close projects.

**Adherence to the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy:** The three C's (Commitment, Capacity and Complaint) were examined and found present. The ESP are reflected in the project manuals and methodology. The Gender Policy is based on National Laws that are in place in Tanzania. Gender policies are reflected in the different government

organizations by Law. During the visit in May the application of the gender policy in the projects was observed.

**Transparency, self-investigative powers, anti- corruption measures and grievance mechanism for environmental and social issues**

**Anti-Fraud and investigation:** A statement from the top management emphasizing a policy of zero tolerance for fraud, financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice by the entity's staff and staff of all parties (e.g. consultants, service providers, etc.) associated directly or indirectly with the projects funded by the entity was provided. Furthermore, zero tolerance for fraud is depicted in some of the NEMC policy documents, inter alia in the Whistle Blower Policy, Client Service Charter and Staff Rules and Regulations. NEMC also prepared a concise Anti-Fraud Policy and Procedures. The Statement of zero tolerance is now on the website, and the Policy has been approved in the June 2017 Board meeting. The door of the Director General office is adorned with a poster with the message: "NEMC has zero tolerance to all forms of corruptions." The implementation partners visited (i.e., UNDP, DANUDA, World Bank) in May 2017 vouched for the integrity of NEMC.

Tanzania has a strong anti-fraud and corruption policy and a special government agency deals with the policies (Prevention, Combatting Corruption Bureau). Investigative capacity is vested in this agency, in the Auditor General's Office and within NEMC. Three cases were reviewed to illustrate the investigative capacity and follow up.

The website of NEMC also contains a complaints line for projects. The Permanent Secretary to Vice President indicated during the mission that the environmental issues, anti-corruption, and gender are top priority and cross-cutting issues to which every Ministry is subject to.

Finally, in June 2017 NEMC provided a Commitment Letter to the effect that it would apply a zero-tolerance policy for fraud for any projects that seek AF funding. In respect of gender policy, Tanzania has laws on the books that apply to all government entities and need to be reflected in the design of projects. In addition, Project Management Manual approved in final form in June 2017 requires that E&S and Gender standards are addressed throughout the project lifecycle.

**Complaint mechanism for environmental and social issues:** The mechanism to report and follow up on environmental and social complaints is the same as the one used to report and follow up on complaints relating to allegations of corruption and ethical breaches

**Overall Conclusion:** The Accreditation Panel concludes that NEMC meets the requirements of the fiduciary standards and those of the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Standards of the Adaptation Fund. It appreciates the efforts of NEMC to develop a set of manuals and strengthen its procedures during the accreditation process which is a good example of capacity building.