

Third Session of the Assembly
28-29 October 2019, Seoul

Agenda Item 2.5

Institutional Review of AFoCO and Secretariat

Introduction

1. In accordance with the recommendation of the Advisory Roundtable endorsed by the Assembly at its Second Session, the Secretariat conducted the independent institutional review of AFoCO by external review panel to identify strategic issues and set future directions of AFoCO and the Secretariat.
2. The Institutional Review Panel prepared and submitted the Review Report on their observations and recommendations on a wide range of issues from the strategic framework of AFoCO to the management system of the Secretariat including its organizational structure. Key recommendations included:
 - a. Revisiting the organization's vision and mission taking into account its' linkage to other strategic issues including the identified niche of AFoCO;
 - b. Further scrutinizing the priority areas through an open process with all levels of stakeholders;
 - c. Developing the membership and cooperation strategies on a broader geographical basis beyond Asian countries;
 - d. Revisiting the contribution formulas of the Parties and developing an open resource mobilization policy as regards to external funding;
 - e. In terms of project development and management, taking care of the systems view on it and developing the strategy on policy relevance with criteria for full scale sustainability,
 - f. Establishing an Executive Board of the Assembly and increasing the term of ED to 3 years for more efficient and sustainable governance of AFoCO; and
 - g. Improving the management system of the Secretariat including program execution system, working conditions, communication, staff requirements, financial and staff regulations, and internal reporting system.

3. The Advisory Roundtable reviewed and endorsed the Review Report for the consideration of the Assembly, and recommended the Secretariat to develop an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations within a few months.

Points for Consideration

4. The Assembly may wish to:
- a. Consider the recommendations of the Review Report endorsed by the Advisory Roundtable and provide further guidance; and
 - b. Task the Secretariat with developing an action plan to follow-up on the recommendations.
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