

Fourth Session of the Assembly
 25-26 November 2020, Virtual

Agenda Item 2.7.3

Information on Annual Project Development Schedule

1. The Secretariat has been providing guidance to member countries in terms of AFoCO project development timelines in view of the pertinent provisions of the Project Manual and Decision 30-III-19R authorizing the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) to endorse the project to proceed with the funding process. Likewise, in consideration of the Korean government's planning and budgeting cycle, appraisal process should be completed within the 1st quarter of every year. In order to cope up thereto, the project development schedule for 2020-2021 was circulated to member countries via official letter (Ref. No.: DE-72 sent on 12 March 2020). Under the 2020-2021 project timeline, a total of 15 project concept notes have been received by the Secretariat as of 18 November as listed in **Attachment 1**.
2. In accordance with the 2020-2021 project timeline, regional projects initiated by the Secretariat among the five (5) Priority Areas under the Strategic Priorities (2019-2023) are also being considered to be developed targeting as much as possible all member countries. The implementation of regional projects will provide member countries with a relatively equal opportunity to participate in various project activities as well as have bigger impacts on achieving AFoCO's vision/mission. A brief description of the potential regional projects may be further discussed at the Assembly session.
3. Following the 2020-2021 project timeline, the indicative project development schedule in 2021-2022 is prepared as follows:

Deadline	Schedule	Action by
At any time but no later than 1 st week of October 2021	Submission/Review of Concept Note	National Focal Point (NFP), Secretariat
By 3 rd week of November 2021	Submission/Review of Project Proposal	NFP, Secretariat
By 4 th week of January 2022	Review and Appraisal of Project Proposal	Secretariat, Project Appraisal Panel

By 4 th week of February 2022	Organize PAC meeting and donor's meeting	Secretariat, PAC
4 th week of October 2022	Approval of projects	Assembly
Contingent to budget confirmation of the donors	Upon notification from the donor regarding pledge of the project funding, official letter will be sent to the proponent countries. The project is launched according to inception arrangement of the member countries	Donor, Secretariat, NFP, Implementing Agency

Points for consideration

4. The Assembly may wish to task the Secretariat to facilitate the necessary actions on the project development according to the indicative project development timeline.

Attachment 1. Status of AFoCO Project Concept Notes (as of 18 November 2020)
