

COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Education and Publicity Sub-Committee

Paper 09/05

Sustainable Development Fund – Assessment Procedures for the Third Round of Applications

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' agreement to the proposed assessment procedures for the third round of applications to the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF).

Proposal

2. We propose that Members endorse the assessment procedures outlined in paragraphs 3 to 4 below.

Considerations

3. By the closing date of the third round of applications on 23 September 2005, the SDU had received 44 submissions, for total grants exceeding \$63 million. One applicant subsequently withdrew her application, which she had mistakenly submitted to the SDU. As the final number of applications (43) is similar to that for the second round, the SDU has the capacity to undertake a detailed assessment of all the applications within a reasonable timeframe without the need to form Vetting Committee (VC)

sub-groups to conduct the initial screening and short-listing of applications. A list of the applications is at **Annex A** for Members' reference.

4. The SDU proposes to distribute CD ROMs containing the applications to all EPSC and VC Members. At the same time, the SDU, in accordance with the assessment criteria at **Annex B** and the assessment form at **Annex C**, would conduct a detailed initial assessment of the applications.

Further Action

5. Subject to Members' views, we will prepare the detailed initial assessments of the applications for consideration by the VC in November. We will then submit the VC's recommendations to the EPSC for consideration. Where necessary, we will seek expert advice on the applications and arrange presentations by the applicants if requested by VC or EPSC Members.

Council Secretariat

October 2005