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**Governing Council  
of the United Nations  
Environment Programme**

**Twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/**

**Global Ministerial Environment Forum**

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Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Policy issues: state of the environment**

**Climate Technology Centre and Network**

**Report by the Executive Director**

*Summary*

The present document provides background information on the decision taken by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighteenth session to select UNEP as the host of the Climate Technology Centre and Network.

\* UNEP/GC.27/1.

## **I. Suggested action by the Governing Council**

1. The Governing Council may wish to consider the adoption of a decision along the lines suggested by the Executive Director. The suggested decision will be submitted separately to the Committee of Permanent Representatives in the context of its preparation of draft decisions.

## **II. Background**

2. Economically feasible options to deal with the challenges of climate change depend in large part on the development, commercialization and widespread dissemination of both effective existing and currently non-commercial technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or allow society to adapt to a changing climate. In this regard, technology issues have always been at the forefront of the intergovernmental response to global climate change. Technology transfer plays a critical role in relation to an effective global response to the challenges of climate change, both for mitigation, since the use of current technologies is often the source of substantial greenhouse gas emissions, and for adaptation, since different technologies are often needed to allow human societies to respond more effectively to the consequences of climate change. However, no technological solution to climate change will materialize in the absence of sufficient levels of investment capital, which counts among the barriers to be overcome, as do lack of information, regulations and capacity.

3. At its thirteenth session, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change approved the Bali Action Plan, which calls for the creation of “effective mechanisms and enhanced means for the removal of obstacles to, and provision of financial and other incentives for, scaling up of the development and transfer of technology to developing country Parties in order to promote access to affordable environmentally sound technologies”.

4. At its sixteenth session, by its decision 1/CP.16, the Conference of the Parties established a technology mechanism, consisting of a policy arm, the Technology Executive Committee, and an implementing arm, the Climate Technology Centre and Network, whose functions are detailed in paragraph 123 of the decision.

5. At its seventeenth session, the Conference of the Parties approved the terms of reference of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (decision 2/CP.17, annex VII) and established the criteria and procedure to be used in evaluating and selecting the host of the Centre (*ibid.*, paras. 136 and 137, and annex VIII). Consequently, in January 2012, the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change issued a call for proposals, to which UNEP responded, leading a consortium that included the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and 11 leading scientific and technical organizations located in developing and developed countries.

6. Following the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in its decision 2/CP.17, an evaluation panel, selected from the members of the Technology Executive Committee and consisting of three members from Annex I parties and three from non-Annex I parties, reviewed and evaluated the proposals received and ranked the proposal submitted by the UNEP-led consortium first. The Executive Director of UNEP informed the Committee of Permanent Representatives of those events, including in his reports to the Committee at its 120th meeting, on 26 September 2012, and its 121st meeting, on 18 December 2012.

7. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its thirty-sixth session, in May 2012, endorsed the recommendations of the evaluation panel and requested the Convention Secretariat to initiate discussions with UNEP on a host agreement for the Climate Technology Centre and Network. The UNEP secretariat and the Convention Secretariat have consulted and agreed on the draft text of a memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the hosting of the Climate Technology Centre and Network. On that basis, the Conference of the Parties, in its decision [ ]/CP.18, formally selected UNEP as the host of the Climate Technology Centre and Network for an initial term of five years and authorized the Executive Secretary of the Convention Secretariat to conclude hosting arrangements with UNEP.

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