Note on Membership and Accession

This document provides information on membership and accession to the Global Green Growth Institute (“GGGI” or the “Institute”).

Membership

The Agreement on the Establishment of the Global Green Growth Institute (the “Establishment Agreement”) stipulates in Article 5.1 that Membership to GGGI is open to any member state of the United Nations or regional integration organization that subscribes to the objectives of the GGGI provided in Article 2 of the Establishment Agreement, namely:

The GGGI shall promote sustainable development of developing and emerging countries, including the least developed countries, by:

a. supporting and diffusing a new paradigm of economic growth: green growth, which is a balanced advance of economic growth and environmental sustainability;

b. targeting key aspects of economic performance and resilience, poverty reduction, job creation and social inclusion, and those of environmental sustainability such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity protection and securing access to affordable, clean energy, clean water and land; and

c. creating and improving the economic, environmental and social conditions of developing and emerging countries through partnerships between developed and developing countries and the public and private sectors.

The UN member state / regional integration organization must ratify, accept or approve the Establishment Agreement in accordance with their respective domestic or internal laws and processes. Upon completion of the formalities required in the respective state / or regional integration organization for the Establishment Agreement to have the force of law of a treaty, the prospective member is to deposit its instrument of accession with the Director-General, who serves as the Depositary of the Establishment Agreement.

Membership does not require any obligatory (annual) financial contributions. However, Members are encouraged to support the GGGI and ensure its financial stability through voluntary annual contribution of core funding, active engagement in its activities or other appropriate means, in accordance with Article 12.2 of the Establishment Agreement.

All Members serve on the Assembly, the supreme organ of GGGI that meets once a year back-to-back with the Council, with sessions taking place in Seoul, unless otherwise agreed by the Assembly and Council. The Assembly advises on the overall direction of the GGGI’s work, reviewing progress in meeting the GGGI’s objectives, and providing guidance on cooperative partnerships and linkages with other international bodies, and elects Members to serve on the Council, GGGI’s executive organ. The Council approves GGGI’s strategy, work program and budget, and audited financial statements, as well as reviews results.

While GGGI hopes to deliver programmatic interventions in support of new Member’s transition to a model of green growth, membership does not automatically guarantee country programming. Expansion of GGGI country operations depends on the availability of resources – including financial and in-kind contributions from the country where projects/programs are to be delivered, financial contributions from development partners and GGGI’s own budget.
### Accession

There are five main stages for membership / accession, as follows:

Figure. **Process for accession**

1. Initial discussion between Government and GGGI regarding interest in membership
2. Head of State, Head of Government or Foreign Minister submits letter of intent to GGGI’s Director-General
3. Government ratifies, accepts or approves Agreement on the Establishment of GGGI in accordance with its domestic process
4. Head of State, Head of Government or Foreign Minister deposits Instrument of Accession to Director-General
5. Country becomes a member on 30th day following Director-General’s receipt of the original Instrument of Accession

*Note: In the case of regional integration organizations, the letter of intent and instrument of accession should be deposited by the head of the organization.*

A Government may reach out to GGGI to explore interest in membership (Stage 1). The Assembly, Council and the Institute do not formally invite countries to become a Member. Recognizing that ratification, acceptance or approval of an international treaty may take time, UN member states and regional integration organizations are encouraged to submit a letter of intent to become a Member of GGGI to the Director-General (Stage 2). Annex 1 outlines the requirements for the Letter of Intent and provides a model that may be used.

Following the letter of intent, GGGI will invite the government to participate as an observer in the Assembly and Council, as well as to engage in knowledge sharing activities and programs. The letter of intent also serves as the basis for which GGGI and the government may begin discussions on programming, and joint resource mobilization efforts.

To conclude its accession, a government is required to ratify, accept or approve the Establishment Agreement in accordance with its respective laws and processes (Stage 3) and to deposit its instrument of accession with the Director-General, the Depositary of the Establishment Agreement (Stage 4). The country will become a Member of GGGI on the thirtieth day after the receipt of a valid original instrument of accession by the Director-General (Stage 5). Annex 2 outlines the requirements for the Instrument of Accession and provides a model that may be used.

As provided for under Article 15 of the Establishment Agreement, GGGI may seek in Member countries privileges and immunities as are customarily afforded to similar types of international organizations to provide a framework for and facilitate GGGI’s presence, operations and activities in the country. In furtherance of this, GGGI encourages prospective members to enter into an agreement on privileges and immunities of GGGI in the country concurrently with their respective processes to accede to the Establishment Agreement.

### Further information

Questions on membership and accession process may be directed to the Depositary Support:

Head of Partnerships
Office of the Director-General
Partnerships@gggi.org
Annex 1. Letter of Intent

There is no mandated form for the letter of intent, but it is recommended to include

- An unambiguous statement that the Government, on behalf of the State, is committed to the objectives of GGGI, outlined in Article 2 of the Establishment Agreement;
- An unambiguous statement that the Government, on behalf of the State, is initiating the process to ratify the Establishment Agreement;
- Full name and title of the Minister appointed as the focal point for matters of accession (i.e. ratification of the Establishment Agreement, negotiation of a privileges and immunities agreement); and
- Signature of the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs or any other person with full powers for that purpose issued by one of the above authorities.

The letter of intent should be presented through a written communication from the Head of State, Head of Government, or Minister of Foreign Affairs or Note Verbal.

A model Letter of Intent is as follows

Director-General
Depositary of the Agreement on the Establishment of GGGI
Global Green Growth Institute

Dear [Name],

On behalf of the Government of [Country], I would convey our intention to join the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

[Country] is a member state of the United Nations, and is committed to the objectives of the Institute as outlined in Article 2 of the Agreement of the Establishment of GGGI, namely,

[Promoting] sustainable development of developing and emerging countries, including the least developed countries, by:

a. supporting and diffusing a new paradigm of economic growth: green growth, which is a balanced advance of economic growth and environmental sustainability;

b. targeting key aspects of economic performance and resilience, poverty reduction, job creation and social inclusion, and those of environmental sustainability such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity protection and securing access to affordable, clean energy, clean water and land; and

c. creating and improving the economic, environmental and social conditions of developing and emerging countries through partnerships between developed and developing countries and the public and private sectors.

[Option to include information about country’s commitment to the Paris Agreement and SDGs]

The Government has embarked on a process to ratify the Agreement on the Establishment of GGGI and have appointed [Minister name and title] as a focal point to engage with you as we proceed through the ratification process.

[Option to include information/focal point relating to the HCA process]

[Signature of Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs]
Annex 2. Instrument of Accession

There is no mandated form for the Instrument of Accession, but it must include the following:

- Title, date and place of conclusion of the Establishment Agreement (i.e. “Agreement on the Establishment of the Global Green Growth Institute done at Rio de Janeiro on 20 June 2012”);
- Full name and title of the person signing the instrument, i.e., the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs or any other person acting in such a position for the time being or with full powers for that purpose issued by one of the above authorities;
- An unambiguous expression of the intent of the Government, on behalf of the State, to consider itself bound by the Establishment Agreement and to undertake faithfully to observe and implement its provisions;
- Date and place where the instrument was issued; and
- Signature of the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs (the official seal only is not adequate) or any other person acting in such a position for the time being or with full powers for that purpose issued by one of the above authorities.

If an Instrument of Accession is drawn up in a language other than English, an English translation must be provided.

It is recommended that prior to the official deposit of the instrument by a government, a copy of the instrument (and a copy of accompanying full powers and English translation, if any) is emailed to GGGI for review. This is to avoid an unwanted situation where an invalid instrument is not accepted at the last minute and hence delay the process of becoming a Member.

A model Instrument of Accession is as follows,

WHEREAS the Agreement on the Establishment of the Global Green Growth Institute was done at Rio de Janeiro on the twentieth day of June, two thousand and twelve,

NOW THEREFORE I, [name and title of the Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs] declare that the Government of [name of State], having considered the above-mentioned Agreement, accedes to the same and undertakes faithfully to perform and carry out the stipulations therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this instrument of accession at [place] on [date].

[Signature of Head of State, Head of Government or Minister for Foreign Affairs]

[Seal of State]