CAFI Executive Board Decision

Republic of Congo - KOPEKOBA: non-authorization of further disbursement and termination of the NUNO Financing Agreement [Project ID: 00140280]

Adopted by email on 12.11.2026
EB.2026.32

Considering:

- The CAFI Declaration and the Letter of Intent between CAFI and the Republic of Congo;

- Decision EB.2022.29, adopted on 8 December 2022, approving the Sustainable Land Use Investment Program (KOPEKOBA) for a total amount of USD 16,527,850 and establishing conditions for the release of the second tranche of financing;

- The Framework Agreement for Participation of Non-United Nations Organizations between the United Nations Development Programme, in its capacity as Administrative Agent for CAFI, and Agence Française de Développement (AFD), as Recipient Non-United Nations Organization, signed on 26 July 2023 (the "NUNO Framework Agreement");

- The NUNO Financing Agreement relating to KOPEKOBA between the Administrative Agent and AFD (the "KOPEKOBA Financing Agreement"), which incorporates the terms of the NUNO Framework Agreement and provides that the funds transferred are to be used for activities under the Project Document, with AFD retaining full programmatic and financial accountability for their use;

- Sections 1.4 and 3.1(a) of the NUNO Framework Agreement, under which transfers by the Administrative Agent are made upon instructions from, and in accordance with decisions of, the Executive Board;

- Section 11.3 of the NUNO Framework Agreement, under which the Administrative Agent, on instruction from the Executive Board, may terminate the Agreement at any time upon sixty (60) days' advance written notice to the Recipient NUNO, and Section 11.4, which provides that the same applies to termination of a specific NUNO Financing Agreement;

- Provisions on CAFI's Manual of Operations (Chapter 5.1) on the conditions applicable to the payment of tranches;

- The letter from AFD dated 4 August 2026 requesting the release of USD 14,527,850 corresponding to the balance of the financing approved for KOPEKOBA;

- The status of the conditions established by Decision EB.2022.29 for the release of the second tranche, as presented to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board:

1. Recalls that Decision EB.2022.29 made the release of the second tranche subject to fulfilment, within twelve (12) months of the commencement of Project implementation, of the following conditions:
    a. cumulative expenditures reaching 70% of the CAFI funding transferred;
    b. submission of all required financial and narrative reports in accordance with the applicable CAFI requirements, together with interim financial and narrative reporting current as of the date of the subsequent payment request;
    c. review and validation by the CAFI Executive Board and the Partnership Steering Committee of the following elements:
        i. the description and geo-referenced mapping of the pilot territories selected under the PI PUDT, including the methodology and selection criteria used, and the areas selected for the preparation of local development plans and related local institutional arrangements, with investments under output 2.2 to be directed to those territories;
        ii. the Operations Manual for the Shared-Cost Grant mechanism and Payments for Environmental Services, including selection criteria, funding channels, governance arrangements, and the types, scale, objectives and revenue streams of potential investment projects;
        iii. the description and justification of the proposed modalities in relation to an integrated territorial approach focused on the pilot territories and supporting activities in the agricultural and forestry sectors; and
        iv. the description of synergies and collaboration arrangements with other relevant programmes in the Republic of Congo contributing to the objectives of the Letter of Intent.
2. Notes that, on the basis of the information submitted in support of the request dated 4 August 2026, the conditions listed in paragraph 1 have not all been fulfilled.
3. Rejects the request for the transfer of the 2nd tranche of funding of 14,527,850 USD.
4. Decides the early closure of the Programme d'Investissements du Programme d'utilisation durable des terres (KOPEKOBA) [Project ID: 00140280].
5. Instructs the Administrative Agent, pursuant to Articles 11.3 and 11.4 of the NUNO Framework Agreement concluded with Agence Française de Développement (AFD), to issue a notice of termination in respect of the NUNO Financing Agreement for KOPEKOBA.
6. Requests AFD, upon receipt of the notice of termination, to take the steps required to terminate the Project activities in a prompt and orderly manner, so as to minimize losses and further expenditures, and to undertake no forward commitments, in accordance with Article 11.4 of the NUNO Framework Agreement.
7. Requests AFD to clarify the arrangements applicable to the ownership, preservation, transfer or disposition, as relevant, of equipment, supplies, intellectual property rights and other

Project assets and outputs, in accordance with Article 4.2 of the NUNO Framework Agreement, AFD's applicable regulations, rules, policies and procedures, and any relevant agreement with the Government of the Republic of Congo.

8. Requests AFD to submit the final narrative and financial reports in accordance with the applicable provisions of the NUNO Framework Agreement and the NUNO Financing Agreement;

9. Requests AFD to return to the Administrative Agent, following receipt of the notice of termination, all unspent funding made available under the NUNO Financing Agreement, in accordance with Article 11.4 of the NUNO Framework Agreement.

10. Further requests AFD to return any income, including applicable interest, due to the Fund in accordance with Article 4.9 of the NUNO Framework Agreement.

11. Recalls that AFD remains responsible for the programmatic and financial obligations applicable to KOPEKOBA, including the reporting, audit and closure requirements set out in Sections V and VII of the NUNO Framework Agreement, and requests AFD to submit the final narrative and financial reporting required in connection with the closure of the Project.

12. Requests the CAFI Secretariat to facilitate consultations with the Government of the Republic of Congo concerning the possible programming of any financing no longer required for KOPEKOBA, including any funds returned upon termination, subject to the applicable CAFI governance and approval procedures.

UN Member, CAFI Executive Board
Signature:
Date: