

Redress



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Grievances and Complaints

Extension of time decision – GCF Secretariat Response to Complaint

GCF Project: FP039

Case [C-0009-Egypt](#)

Date 8 August 2024

IRM Extension of Time Decision – Compliance Review

GCF Project **FP039 – GCF-EBRD Egypt Renewable Energy Financing Framework**

Date **8 August 2024**

1. On 9 December 2022, the IRM declared eligible two complaints submitted to the IRM in relation to GCF funded project/programme FP039, "GCF-EBRD Egypt Renewable Energy Financing Framework."¹ The Accredited Entity for this programme is the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). The complainants (**Complainant #1** and **Complainant #2**) raised a number of issues that were broadly grouped into concerns related to (i) community development, and (ii) labour and working conditions, for the purposes of complaints handling processes.
2. At the conclusion of the initial steps, Complainant #1 and Complainant #2 both agreed to consider problem solving under the facilitation of the IRM.² The problem-solving phase commenced on 7 April 2023 and concluded on 20 April 2024. At the conclusion of the problem-solving phase, a Problem-Solving Agreement on community-development issues was reached with parties, including Complainant #1 and Complainant #2.³
3. Regarding the complaint on labour and working conditions brought forward by Complainant #2, parties were unable to reach an agreement and as a result, as of 27 April 2024, the IRM closed the problem-solving phase and referred Complainant #2's complaint to compliance review.⁴ The IRM conducted a compliance appraisal and on 12 July 2024 concluded in respect of those issues, there is *prima facie* evidence of adverse impacts and non-compliance with GCF operational policies and procedures by GCF Programme FP039.⁵ Accordingly, the IRM has commenced a compliance investigation in respect of Complainant #2's case.
4. Regarding the complaint on labour and working conditions brought forward by Complainant #1, the IRM initially reached a Problem-Solving Agreement and proceeded to the monitoring phase. In July 2024, during the monitoring phase, Complainant #1 communicated to the IRM that he wished to refer his labour-related issues in his complaint to compliance review. As a result, the IRM closed the problem-solving phase and referred Complainant #1's labour-related issues to compliance review, as of 14 July 2024.
5. On 26 July 2024, the IRM, in accordance with paragraph 51 of its Procedures and Guidelines,⁶ formally requested the GCF Secretariat to submit a response to the complaint

¹ Eligibility Determination can be found here: [C0009 Egypt | Independent Redress Mechanism | Green Climate Fund](#)

² The initial steps report is available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/initial-steps-report-c-0009-egypt-final-web.pdf>

³ Final Problem-Solving Conclusion Report – Community related matters: [Microsoft Word - IRM Case C0009 Final Problem Solving Conclusion Report \(Community Complaint\) web \(greenclimate.fund\)](#)

⁴ Final Problem-Solving Conclusion Report – Labour Complaints [Microsoft Word - IRM Case C0009 Final Problem Solving Conclusion Report \(Labour Complaints\) web \(002\) \(greenclimate.fund\)](#)

⁵ Compliance Appraisal Report – Labour Complaint (Complainant #2) [compliance-appraisal-report-c0009-egy-jul12.pdf \(greenclimate.fund\)](#)

⁶ Available here: [2019 Procedures and Guidelines of the IRM | Independent Redress Mechanism | Green Climate Fund](#)

submitted by Complainant #1 within twenty-one days of the communication i.e. on or before 16 August 2024.

6. On 08 August 2024, the Secretariat requested an extension of 15 calendar days to submit its response, citing the following reasons:
 - the response will need an assessment of the input received from the accredited entity;
 - the response requires interdivisional collaboration within the Secretariat during Board preparation and holiday season;
 - the response needs to be shared with Senior Management of the Secretariat.
7. In order to ensure the full and proper processing of this case, parties must be provided adequate time to prepare and present their views. The IRM finds that the reasons given for the extension by the Secretariat are reasonable.
8. Acting in terms of paragraph 95 of the PGs, the IRM has decided to extend the time period for the Secretariat to provide a response from 16 August 2024 to 31 August 2024

[Signed]

Preksha Krishna Kumar
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Approved By:
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