



19th Fl. Jeongdong Bldg., 21-15 Jeongdong-gil, Jung-gu, Seoul, Korea, 100-784

TEL: 82 2 2096 9991 FAX: 82 2 2096 9990 E-mail: info@gggi.org

Ref. OEMG-080714-6

Mr. Kaare Barslev
Chair, Audit and Finance Sub-Committee of the GGGI Council
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Denmark

07 Aug 2014

Dear Chair:

I am writing in light of recent media coverage in Denmark of matters related to the closure of the GGGI London Office. I would like take this opportunity to state my position on the series of events surrounding the period of the Council decision, as you were unable to attend the 5th Session of the Council in June 2014.

Given GGGI's overall financial situation and scale of operations, I proposed to the Facilitative Sub-Committee (FSC) that GGGI close its offices in Copenhagen and London. This proposal was endorsed by the FSC and submitted to the Council. I explained the need for such action to Danish Government officials and NGO representatives at that time.

When the proposal was considered by the Council, a number of Council Members expressed the view that a GGGI base in London (or elsewhere in Europe) should be maintained. I stated both in the Council and in bilateral conversations with GGGI member countries that in principle a modest London GGGI base would be useful, provided it focusses on: (i) donor relations; (ii) engagement with the private sector; and (iii) financing options, as opposed to research, which is the current primary function of the London Office.

Given the differing views within the Council, I was asked by the Council Chair to draft a compromise proposal, which subsequently served as the basis for the ultimate decision taken by the Council, which was to transfer the research function to Seoul and to explore the potential for a European presence.

Yours sincerely,

Yvo de Boer

Director-General
Global Green Growth Institute