



**SUBMISSION ON: THE PROPOSAL TO APPROVE ZAMBIA'S ACCESSION
TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INSTITUTE
(AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GLOBAL GREEN
GROWTH INSTITUTE)**

DCEMBER 2022

PMRC was requested to submit a written memorandum providing comments on the ramifications of Zambia's accession to membership of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

BACKGROUND

Zambia has made commendable efforts in domesticating and implementing international environmental protocols and commitments through national environmental policies, legislations and strategies aimed at attaining of sustainable development and environmental management. However, these efforts have been compounded by several constraints, among them inadequate financial resources, insufficient technical expertise, poverty and a lack of harmonisation in the existing environment-related policies and legislation leading to implementation and legal enforcement failures (Phiri, 2016).

The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

GGGI was established as an international intergovernmental organization in 2012 at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Its vision consists of a low-carbon and resilient planet of strong, inclusive and sustainable growth. Its mission is to support Member states in transforming their economies into a green growth economic model. The Institute currently has 44 members, with operations in 37 countries, and between 2015 and 2021, it had a cumulative investment portfolio of 7.2 billion United States Dollars.

Objectives of the GGGI and Zambia's Green Growth Agenda

The GGI pledges to promote sustainable development in developing and emerging countries such as Zambia by:

- a. Supporting and diffusing a new paradigm of economic growth through the green growth model, which is a balanced advance of economic growth and environmental sustainability;
- b. Targeting critical 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 developing and emerging countries' economic, environmental and social conditions through partnerships between developed and developing countries and the public and private sectors.

PMRC COMMENTS

The objectives of the GGGI are in line with Zambia's green growth agenda as enshrined in the 8th National Development Plan (8NDP), where the country has embarked on an economic development path that is supported by a path that encourages environmental sustainability.

- The objectives contained in article 2 of the agreement and the activities in Article 4 of the Agreement spell out what ratification of this Agreement will mean for the

country. For example, one of the activities in Article 4 states, “disseminating evidence-based knowledge and enhancing public awareness of green growth and sustainable development.” This activity is key for Zambia as the country embarks on the development agenda. The 8NDP, under the environmental sustainability development area, proposes to promote research and development for adaptation efforts to cushion against effects of climate change; therefore, the activity proposed in article 4 is key for the actualization of this strategy.

- This activity will also require the implementation of practical measures such as vocational training packages with a focus on greening various sectors. Moreover, the education system (as implied in the above Activity) also needs to be reviewed to fully integrate environmental and social considerations in the various disciplines. An example of such consideration was the designing and implementation of a bachelor’s degree in Environmental Education at the University of Zambia, which aims to provide environmental knowledge, skills and values to personnel serving or intending to join institutions which deal with the environment to promote green skills in these institutions and among communities.
- Additionally, other activities in the Agreement pledge to assist with capacity building regarding the design and implementation of green growth plans, which is an additional step in the right direction regarding the capacity building requirements for the country needed to develop on a green growth path. Bandy et al. (2018) explain that staff training at all levels is one of the core drivers of a successful programme implementation drive (the green growth agenda in this case).
- The ratification of this Agreement is also expected to improve the country’s climate financing. The flow of climate finance in Zambia increased from less than US\$20 million per annum in 2010 to more than US\$50 million per annum in 2021. This increase has been attributed to institutional strengthening and commitments to ensuring the country develops legislation to drive the environmental agenda, especially climate change response through nationally determined contributions. The establishment of the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment has consolidated all environmental sustainability functions and enhanced coordination, including climate finance. Ratifying this Agreement is expected to further contribute to institutional strengthening, which in turn is expected to bolster the country’s climate financing and environmental protection. Climate financing is currently implemented through the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF and the Adaptation Fund, the focal point institution for the Climate Investment Fund. Non state actors have also become key in driving the climate change agenda, ZANACO was recently accredited to administer climate funds joining the Development Bank of Zambia.

CONCLUSION

Many countries have taken the path of green growth at the centre of their development agenda Zambia inclusive. Therefore, it is important that as Zambia drive its development path, especially through green industrialization that it does not do so in isolation, it is important to be part of global institutions such as the Global Green Growth Institute,

which is comprised of many nations where the country can learn best practices in the mitigation and adaptation for climate change and green growth options. The 2012 Rio+20 Summit concluded that green growth is best defined and tailored according to the individual country context and in the case of Zambia, attaining the ambitious targets outlined in Zambia's NDC will require strong institutional coordination and ratifying Zambia's membership to the Global Green Growth Institute is one such step in the right direction.

REFERENCES

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