No. 14-2/2016-NRM-I (48562)

Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & farmers Welfare Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & farmers Welfare (RFS Division)

118, B wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi Dated: 1St March, 2019 Office Memorandum

Subject: Green Agriculture: Transforming Indian Agriculture for Global Environmental Benefits and Conservation of Critical Biodiversity and Forest landscape- making necessary arrangements to authorize the existing entities or create Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) for the execution of the GEF6 through a separate Green Agriculture project account- reg

The undersigned is directed to refer to 'Green Agriculture: Transforming Indian Agriculture for Global Environmental Benefits and Conservation of Critical Biodiversity and Forest landscape' which has been endorsed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for implementation in five States namely, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand. Under this project, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is the Implementing Agency for GEF and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoAFW) is the executing partner at Central level. GEF is providing 100% grant for this project over a period of 6 years together with a component of co-financing by States as per project document shared with respective State Governments.

2. As you would be aware, it had been suggested in the project document that the GEF funds would be provided through CAAA as per grant agreement to be signed between FAO and Department of Economic Affairs (DEA). However, after several rounds of consultations, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, has now stated that there is no need for them to sign a Grant Agreement with FAO to channelize the grant funds received from GEF through the Government Account and suggested that concerned States may be asked to make necessary arrangements to authorize the existing entities or create Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV)/ or directly by Government through a separate Green Agriculture project account.

3. Hence State Government may make necessary arrangements to authorize the existing entities or create Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) for the execution of the GEF6: Green Agriculture Project in States through a separate Green Agriculture project account authorising them for receiving funds directly from FAO urgently.

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