

Decision _/CP.8

Date and venue of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 7, paragraph 4, of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985 on the pattern of conferences,

Recalling rule 22, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure being applied,¹ regarding the rotation of the office of President among the five regional groups,

1. *Decides* that the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties shall be held from 1 to 12 December 2003, to be preceded by informal pre-sessional meetings;
2. *Notes* with appreciation the expression of interest by the Government of Italy in hosting the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Invites* the Government of Italy to provide further information on its offer by 30 November 2003;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue consultations with the Government of Italy and to report to the Bureau not later than 15 January 2003 on whether the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties could be held in Italy, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 40/243;
5. *Requests* the Bureau to decide on the venue of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties by 30 January 2003 after the first fact finding mission of the secretariat;
6. *Requests* the secretariat, in the light of a decision by the Bureau that the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties should be held in Italy, to conclude a host country agreement with the Government of Italy on arrangements for the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties.

¹ FCCC/CP/1996/2.