

**Briefing event by institutions under the Convention relevant for
the provision of support**

Thursday, 6 June, 11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Speaking Notes
CGE Chair**

- On behalf of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), I want to thank the Co-chairs for providing this opportunity to brief the ADP on the work of the CGE.
- Mr. Co-Chairs, as Parties are fully aware, the primary mandate of the CGE is to provide technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties to prepare their national communications. For this year, the CGE agreed to focus its provision of technical advice and support on the preparation of biennial update reports (BURs). This is in response to the request from the Conference of Parties to develop a work programme for 2013 that takes into account the current and future needs of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, the provisions of the Convention and the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Additionally, during the various workshops that were held in 2012, there were numerous requests from Parties for the CGE to provide additional support with respect to the preparation of BUR's.
- While the CGE has not been directly involved in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions by Parties, the group managed to make significant contribution in enhancing the capacity of non-Annex I Parties to methodologically and scientifically assess and prioritize those actions for implementation, as well as and reporting them in their national communications, in a consistent and transparent manner. This has been primarily achieved through two sets of tools that the CGE has been using since its inception at COP5 in 1999: the CGE training materials and the regional hands-on training workshops.
- Over the last 3 years, the CGE has updated the set of training materials on national GHG inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, and mitigation assessment in the context of national communications of non-Annex I Parties. The update was

undertaken to take into account recent science, information and other developments under the Convention. Let me take this opportunity to inform Parties that these training materials are available on the UNFCCC website for use by any interested Parties.

- Using these updated set of training materials, the CGE conducted 9 regional hands-on training workshops involving about 300 national experts from non-Annex I Parties. With a view to maximize the participation, the use of video-conferencing technology allowed the CGE to involve remotely another 1400 national experts in those workshops.
- In addition to enhancing the knowledge of national experts on concepts, tools, methods and approaches in the areas of reporting for the national communications, these training workshops were useful in serving as a platform for exchange of information, ideas and lessons learned, and also promote South-South cooperation and networking among national experts.
- In responding to the technical needs of non-Annex I Parties, the group is engaged in developing supplementary training materials to facilitate the non-Annex I in the preparation of their BURs. The group held a workshop on 6 and 7 May 2013 to solicit input from experts into the training materials it is developing for preparation of BURs. The CGE has also planned a training workshop for non-Annex I Parties on the preparation of BURs for the second half of the year.
- In closing, I would like to mention that the group has endeavored to meet the evolving needs of non-Annex I Parties and, despite the heavy and taxing workload, the group has up to this date, managed to fulfill its mandate successfully. I would like to thank my fellow members, both past and present, for their effort and commitment. I would like to thank Parties for their trust and confidence in the group and for the support they have provided to work of the group. The group is fully cognizant of the fact that it is entrusted with one of the key issues under the Convention and endeavors to deliver the products required by the Parties as per the mandate they have given.

- Thank you, Mr. Co-Chair.