

Decision -/CMP.4

Guidance on the implementation of Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol,

Mindful of the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2,

Recalling the provisions of Articles 3 and 6 of the Kyoto Protocol,

Cognizant of decisions 2/CMP.1, 9/CMP.1 and its annex (joint implementation guidelines), 10/CMP.1, 2/CMP.2, 3/CMP.2 and 3/CMP.3,

Recognizing that the work on joint implementation can be accomplished when sufficient expertise and financial and human resources are available to support the work of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee,

Expressing its appreciation to Parties that have contributed to funding the work on joint implementation,

Recalling decision 9/CMP.1, paragraph 7, which states that any administrative costs arising from procedures contained in the joint implementation guidelines relating to the functions of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee shall be borne by both the Parties included in Annex I to the Convention and the project participants,

Welcoming the provision of information to the secretariat, in accordance with paragraph 20 of the joint implementation guidelines, by 33 Parties on their designated focal points and by 25 Parties on their national guidelines and procedures for approving joint implementation projects,

Recognizing the potential increase in the number of joint implementation projects,

Reiterating that a Party hosting a joint implementation project shall make publicly available information on the project in accordance with paragraph 28 of the joint implementation guidelines,

Reiterating also the importance of ensuring the efficient, cost-effective and transparent functioning of joint implementation and the executive and supervisory role of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee,

Stressing the importance of constituencies nominating members and alternate members to the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee who have the required qualifications and sufficient time to serve on the Committee and perform their functions, in order to ensure that the Committee has the necessary expertise in, inter alia, financial, environmental and joint implementation regulatory matters and executive decision-making,

I. General

1. *Invites Parties wishing to be involved in joint implementation projects to provide to the secretariat information in accordance with paragraph 20 of the joint implementation guidelines, if this information has not been previously provided;*

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual report of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee for 2007–2008,¹ including information on the work programme and budget of the Committee, and on the actions taken and the guidance and clarifications provided to assist project participants and independent entities;
3. *Notes with appreciation* that 169 project design documents, seven determinations regarding project design documents, two monitoring reports and one verifications of reductions in anthropogenic emissions by sources or enhancements of anthropogenic removals by sinks have been made publicly available in accordance with paragraphs 32, 34, 36 and 38 of the joint implementation guidelines and that assessment of 15 applications for accreditation of independent entities is progressing;
4. *Commends* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee for the efficient implementation and operation of the verification procedure under the Committee and encourages further efforts to facilitate the process of accrediting independent entities;
5. *Encourages* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee to continue enhancing the implementation of the verification procedure under the Committee, taking into account the distinct characteristics of joint implementation under Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol, and to emphasize in its interaction with designated focal points, independent entities, project participants and stakeholders, that approaches specific to joint implementation are available;
6. *Requests* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee to develop, as soon as possible, definitions, forms, guidelines and procedures for projects under programmes of activities implemented under the verification procedure under the Committee, bearing in mind the work of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism in this area;
7. *Acknowledges* the development by the secretariat of a web-based interface that, inter alia, provides an overview of all joint implementation projects, in accordance with decision 3/CMP.3, paragraph 4, for the use of designated focal points of Parties that have provided information in accordance with paragraph 20 of the joint implementation guidelines and that host joint implementation projects;
8. *Invites* Parties to continue providing information on joint implementation projects that they are hosting by making use of the web-based interface referred to in paragraph 7 above.

II. Governance

9. *Commends* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee for maintaining a joint implementation management plan, pursuant to provisions in decision 10/CMP.1, paragraph 2 (g), decision 3/CMP.2, paragraph 5, and decision 3/CMP.3, paragraph 6; for implementing measures aimed at strengthening the joint implementation process, taking into account the experience of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism, as appropriate; and for its responsiveness to the needs of Parties, independent entities, project participants, stakeholders and the general public, given the limited resources available;
10. *Encourages* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee:
 - (a) To continue to keep the joint implementation management plan under review and make adjustments to it as necessary to ensure the efficient, cost-effective and transparent functioning of joint implementation;
 - (b) To enhance its interaction with independent entities and designated focal points, as well as stakeholders, as proposed in the joint implementation management plan;

¹ FCCC/KP/CMP/2008/3 (Parts I and II).

11. *Notes with appreciation* the information on decisions of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee and on the status of work undertaken by the Committee, as presented on the joint implementation web pages of the UNFCCC website;

12. *Encourages* the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee, designated focal points, independent entities, project participants and stakeholders to make every effort to contribute towards a more transparent, consistent, predictable and efficient verification procedure under the Committee;

13. *Also encourages* independent entities to continue to build and improve their capacity to appropriately perform their functions under the verification procedure under the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee;

III. Resources for the work on joint implementation

14. *Notes* that income from the charging of fees to cover administrative costs relating to the activities of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee will accrue during the biennium 2008–2009 and that income from fees may cover the administrative expenses only as of 2010 at the earliest;

15. *Notes with concern* that the income from the charging of fees referred to in paragraph 14 above that has accrued to date is significantly lower than the level required to cover the estimated administrative costs relating to the activities of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee;

16. *Invites* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider at its thirtieth session, in the context of its consideration of the programme budget for 2010–2011, the status of the income received by the secretariat from the charging of fees referred to in paragraph 14 above, with a view to recommending a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its fifth session that ensures appropriate arrangements are made to address the potential shortfall in revenues;

17. *Urges* Parties included in Annex I to the Convention to make contributions to the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities for funding the work on joint implementation in the biennium 2008–2009 at a level that would ensure the thorough and timely implementation of the joint implementation management plan, including by strengthening the capacity of the secretariat to support the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee and its subcommittees, panels and/or working groups in their work and decision-making.
