

Dear colleagues,

The SBI, at its twenty-second session, has made a very significant achievement — after more than two years of lengthy and crucial discussions, agreement on the issue of submission of second and, where appropriate, third national communications from non-Annex I Parties has finally been reached.

To date, one hundred and twenty-four initial national communications by non-Annex-I Parties have been submitted to the secretariat. Sao Tome and Principe is the latest submission received at SB 22.

This issue of the *NAI UPDATE* highlights the conclusions as they relate to the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties and to other issues of interest to non-Annex I Parties. It also provides a summary of the side event on the work of the CGE.

We hope you find this information useful.

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NAI UPDATE is prepared by the Non-Annex I Implementation Subprogramme after each session of the subsidiary bodies and is sent to all UNFCCC national focal points and national communication project coordinators. Please provide comments to Lornaliza Mangosing (fax: +49 228 815 1599, email: lmangosing@unfccc.int).

SB 22

Highlights relating to national communications from non-Annex I Parties

Submission of second and, where appropriate, third national communications

The SBI, at its twenty-second session, has finally concluded deliberations on the submission of second and, where appropriate, third national communications. A draft decision will be forwarded to the COP for its consideration and adoption at its eleventh session.

After more than two years of negotiations on this matter, Parties have finally agreed that non-Annex I Parties “shall make all efforts to submit their second and, where appropriate, third national communication, within four years of the initial disbursement of financial resources” and “if necessary and based on their national circumstances, may use an extension of up to one year for submission, after having informed the secretariat”. It should be noted however, that this extension does not imply additional funding.

Least developed countries may submit their second national communication at their own discretion.

Parties will further consider the implementation of Article 12.5 of the Convention at the fifteenth session of the COP.

The text of the draft decision is available at:
<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/109.pdf>

Work of the CGE

In the conclusions on the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), the SBI took note of the oral report presented by Ms. Emily Ojoo-Massawa (Kenya), Chair of the CGE, on the results of the fourth CGE meeting held in Maputo, Mozambique on 14 and 15 April 2005. It also took note of the successful turn out of the CGE hands-on training workshops on national GHG inventories for the Asia region, held from 8 to 12 February 2005 in Shanghai, China and on vulnerability and adaptation assessments for the Africa region, held from 18 to 22 April 2005 in Maputo, Mozambique.

The SBI appreciated the continued efforts of the CGE in providing technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national communications and noted that the CGE meetings (not more than twice a year) are crucial to the completion of the CGE work programme.

The SBI invited Annex II Parties in a position to do so, to provide funding for the CGE global hands-on training workshop on mitigation scheduled for September 2005 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, as well as for the further implementation of the CGE work programme.

The text of the draft conclusions is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/111.pdf>

Compilation and synthesis of initial national communications

In the conclusions on compilation and synthesis of initial national communications, the SBI took note of the document containing the list of projects submitted by non-Annex I Parties in accordance with Article 12.4 of the Convention.

The SBI recommended that the COP, at its eleventh session, request the GEF to provide assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the formulation and development of project proposals; it also invited bilateral and multilateral assistance programmes to provide support for these activities.

The text of the draft conclusions is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/108.pdf>

Provision of financial and technical support

In the conclusions on the provision of financial and technical support, the SBI welcomed the information provided by the GEF on the support for the preparation of initial and subsequent national communications. It noted that the GEF continues to provide such information and requested the secretariat to report this information to the SBI at its twenty-fourth session.

The SBI also noted the document containing the status of preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties and urged those Parties that have not yet submitted their initial national communication to do so as soon as possible.

The text of the draft conclusions is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/107.pdf>

Other matters relating to non-Annex I Parties

Special Climate Change Fund

At this session of the SBI, still no agreement has been reached on the issue of SCCF. Further deliberations on this matter will continue at the twenty-third session of the SBI based on a draft text forwarded by the SBI to its next session.

The text of the draft conclusions is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/113.pdf>

Matters relating to the least developed countries

In the conclusions on matters relating to the least developed countries, the SBI welcomed the report of the Chair of the LEG. It stressed the importance of intersessional consultations among the LDCs, GEF and other relevant entities for the formulation of modalities in the operation of the LDC Fund.

The text of the draft conclusions is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/114.pdf>

The SBI also managed to reach an agreement on further guidance for the operation of the LDC Fund. It recommended a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its eleventh session.

The text of the draft decision is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbi/114a01.pdf>

International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The SBSTA, at its twenty-second session, held consultations on this agenda item, based on the report presented by the secretariat on the outcome of the Mauritius International Meeting (FCCC/SBSTA/2005/INF.1). Since Parties were not able to conclude consideration of this issue at this session, SBSTA would continue deliberations at its twenty-third session.

The text of the draft decision is available at: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2005/sbsta/112.pdf>



CC:FORUM side event

Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties (CGE)

Ms. Emily Ojoo-Massawa (Kenya), Chair of the CGE, chaired the side event. She presented an overview of the work of the CGE which aims at assisting non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their national communications.

Mr. Arthur Rolle (Bahamas) presented the work done by the thematic group on [vulnerability and adaptation](#). He presented the results of the V&A workshop held in Maputo, Mozambique and indicated that the group recommends to hold similar workshops for other regions in the near future.

Mr. Taka Hiraishi (IPCC) presented the work done by the thematic group on [greenhouse gas inventories](#). He mentioned that two CGE hands-on training workshops have been organized (one for the Latin America and the Caribbean region and another for the Asia region). He announced that training materials developed and used for these workshops will be posted on the secretariat web site by COP 11.

From the group's analysis of the latest initial national communications, it was noted that all have used the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines; many have reported for the year 1994 and most have covered a wider range of gases than what is strictly required by the UNFCCC guidelines.

Mr. Festus Luboyera, from the secretariat, presented the work of the thematic group on [mitigation](#) on behalf of Mr. Jaekyu Lim (Republic of Korea). The group has already examined 31 national communications, and the remaining 11 should be done by October 2005. The group is of the view that technical support and capacity-building for mitigation analysis should be provided to non-Annex I Parties.

On the issue of the mitigation workshop to be held in the Republic of Korea, the group has already agreed on the scope of the training materials, however funding is still required in order for the workshop to take place.

Mr. Luis Paz (Cuba) presented the work done by the group on [cross-cutting issues](#). He stated that some members of the group have been and will be active in participating in the workshops on Article 6 as well as the CGE hands-on training workshops. The group would also like to strengthen cooperation with the EGTT.

Ms. Martha Perdomo (NCSP) presented the role of the [NCSP](#) in assisting non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their national communications. She listed the following objectives of the NCSP: (1) to facilitate implementation of NCs; (2) to prepare and disseminate technical materials; and (3) to sustain capacity building efforts. NCSP activities will commence in June 2005.

In conclusion, the Chair reiterated the importance of the completion of the CGE work programme and requested Parties, in a position to do so, to provide adequate financial resources.

A short questionnaire for soliciting feedback that may assist the secretariat in organizing future events was answered by a number of participants. Many of them felt that the event was well organized and that the presentations on the work of the CGE were very informative. As a result of this successful event, participants suggested that similar events focusing on support to developing countries should be held at future sessions of the SBs and COP.

CC:FORUM is an initiative of the secretariat to provide a forum for the exchange of information on national communications from non-Annex I Parties and related financial and technical support. CC:FORUM events are open to all participants of the sessions of the COP and its

Upcoming events

CGE global mitigation training workshop

26–30 September 2005 (tentative schedule)
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Fifth meeting of the CGE

24–25 November 2005 (tentative schedule)
Montreal, Canada

COP 11 / COP/MOP1

28 November–9 December 2005
Montreal, Canada

