

## UNFCCC

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE - Secretariat CONVENTION - CADRE SUR LES CHANGEMENTS CLIMATIQUES - Secrétariat

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The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change presents its compliments to the National Focal Points for climate change and to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations.

The secretariat has the honour to inform Parties and signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) that on 3 June 2011, the secretariat received a letter dated 18 May 2011 from the Government of Cyprus and the European Union which sets out a proposal to amend Annex I to the Convention with a view to adding the name of Cyprus to that Annex as of 1 January 2013, or on a later date. The letter, including the proposed amendment in an annex, received by the secretariat is attached.

The procedures for amending an Annex to the Convention are contained in Articles 15 and 16 of the Convention. Article 16, paragraph 4, of the Convention provides that the proposal of amendments to annexes to the Convention shall be in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 15, paragraph 2. Article 15, paragraph 1, of the Convention states that "Any Party may propose amendments to the Convention". Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Convention states that "Amendments to the Convention shall be adopted at an ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties. The text of any proposed amendment to the Convention shall be communicated to the Parties by the secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for adoption. The secretariat shall also communicate proposed amendments to the Signatories to the Convention and, for information, to the Depositary."

The proposal will be included in the provisional agenda of the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties. The full text of the proposal will also be issued as an official document of the Conference of the Parties in the six official languages of the United Nations.

The secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the National Focal Points for climate change and to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Bonn, 3 June 2011

## Letter dated 18 May 2011 from the Government of Cyprus and the European Union Addressed to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

DEMETRIS J. ELIADES

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

CONNIE HEDEGAARD

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Brussels, 18 May 2011 Nicosia, **18 MAI 2011** 

Dear Mrs. Figueres,

Cyprus and the European Union, as Parties to the Convention, propose an amendment to Annex I to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change with a view to adding the name of Cyprus to that Annex as of 1 January 2013, or on a later date. The text of the proposed amendment is annexed to this letter.

This proposal is in line with the amendment agreed at COP-15 to include Malta in Annex I to the Convention (Decision 3/CP.15). In consequence of Cyprus' changed political circumstances as a Member State of the European Union, it seeks to put Cyprus on the same legal footing as the other Member States of the European Union that are included in Annex I to the Convention.

We propose that this amendment be adopted at the 17th session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 28 November to 9 December 2011. We request the Convention secretariat to circulate the proposed amendment to the Parties to the Convention and communicate it to the Depositary for information, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

Mrs Cristiana Figueres Executive Secretary Climate Change Secretariat UNFCCC P.O. Box 260 124 53153 Bonn GERMANY

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Tel.: (+32-2) 2983034 Fax: (+32-2) 2988606 As a non-Annex I Party, Cyprus currently has a number of projects under the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). It is imperative that the issuance of certified emission reductions (CERs) pursuant to Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol for emissions reductions achieved before 1 January 2013 is not affected by the entry into force of the amendment.

To achieve a smooth transition for Cyprus to becoming an Annex I Party, and to avoid implications for the issuance of credits from the CDM projects for reductions achieved during the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, this amendment shall only enter into force on 1 January 2013, or on a later date, in accordance with the procedures in Articles 15 and 16 of the Convention.

We therefore request that an item on the adoption of the proposed amendment to the Convention, including the delayed entry into force and the issuance of CERs obtained before 1 January 2013, be included in the provisional agenda of the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC.

Yours sincerely,

Demetris J. Eliades

Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources & Environment

Republic of Cyprus

Connie Hedegaard European Commissioner for Climate Action

## Annex

## Proposed amendment to Annex I to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

This amendment shall enter into force on 1 January 2013, or on a later date, in accordance with the procedures in Articles 15 and 16 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The entry into force of this amendment shall not affect the issuance of certified emission reductions pursuant to Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol for emission reductions achieved through projects hosted by Cyprus before 1 January 2013.

The following text shall be inserted between the entries for Croatia and the Czech Republic:

Cyprus