



UNITED  
NATIONS



Framework Convention  
on Climate Change

Distr.  
GENERAL

FCCC/SB/1997/INF.1  
25 February 1997

ENGLISH ONLY

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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Fifth Session

Bonn, 25-28 February 1997

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Fifth Session

Bonn, 25-28 February 1997

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN  
ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

**Secretariat activities to facilitate the provision of support to non-Annex I  
Parties for the preparation of their initial national communications**

**Note by the secretariat**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. According to Article 12.5 of the Convention, each Party not included in Annex I to the Convention shall make its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4 Paragraph 3. Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial communication at their discretion.

2. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its second session, by its decision 10/CP.2 paragraph 1 (a), requested the secretariat, in accordance with Article 8.2 (c) of the Convention, to facilitate assistance to Parties, particularly developing country Parties, in the

preparation of their initial communications, through the organization of workshops at the regional level; to provide a forum for the exchange of experiences in the development of emission factors and activity data for the estimation of the inventory, as well as, on request, for other elements of information in the initial communications; and to provide a report to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, at each of their sessions (FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1).

3. At the same session, the COP, by its decision 3/CP.2, having considered the progress report of the secretariat on its activities relating to technical and financial support to Parties, namely CC:INFO, CC:TRAIN, CC:FORUM and CC:SUPPORT, requested the secretariat to prepare a progress report for consideration by the SBI at its **sixth** session (FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1).

4. This document contains information on activities of the secretariat in response to decisions 10/CP.2 and 3/CP.2. A progress report on these activities will be submitted by the secretariat for consideration by the SBI at its sixth session. Its agenda will provide an opportunity for Parties to provide guidance to the secretariat on work in this area.

## II. ACTIVITIES

### A. Information on expected submission dates of initial national communications

5. In the notification from the Executive Secretary to Parties dated 28 October 1996, it was noted that the adoption of guidelines by COP2 opened the way for the preparation of communications from non-Annex I Parties. Most of these Parties are undertaking or have undertaken activities towards this end, with financial and technical support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels.

6. By the same notification, non-Annex I Parties were invited to communicate to the secretariat the expected dates for the submission of their initial national communications. Moreover, the secretariat, in cooperation with multilateral and bilateral organizations, also distributed a questionnaire to obtain information on the expected dates of publication of communications from non-Annex I Parties.

7. The responses have been compiled and are presented in a table in annex I. Responses were received from 47 Parties, including eight from least developed countries. 22 Parties have indicated a tentative date or range of dates for the submission of their communications; 25 Parties have not yet determined such a date; 75 Parties have not responded. **Parties are invited to review the information and, where appropriate, supplement, update or amend it.** Based on the information received, the secretariat will prepare an updated table for consideration by the SBI at its sixth session.

### B. Organization of regional workshops

8. The secretariat participated in a number of regional workshops, where it presented a module on the guidelines for the preparation of initial national communications of non-Annex I Parties and the financial and technical assistance that is available for the preparation of these communications.

9. Inputs were provided in the following workshops, which were attended by policy makers and technical experts involved in the preparation of initial national communications of their countries:

- (a) Tunis, Tunisia (United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 3-4 October 1996, attended by participants from Maghreb countries);
- (b) Nairobi, Kenya (UNDP and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 24-25 November 1996, participants from East African countries);
- (c) Beijing, China (United States Country Studies Program (US-CSP), 12-15 November 1996, interregional) and
- (d) Jakarta, Indonesia (US-CSP, 6-8 January 1997, participants from the Asia-Pacific region).

10. In addition, in November 1996, the Central Asian States Workshop on the Preparation of Initial Communications of non-Annex I Countries and overview of the Implementation of the Climate Change Convention was organized by the secretariat in collaboration with the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the Problems of Climate Change, UNDP and UNEP. The workshop requested the main administration of Hydrometeorology of the Republic of Uzbekistan to submit a project proposal to UNEP, in accordance with Decision 10/CP.2 paragraph 13, to improve the methods of calculation of greenhouse gas emissions and sinks for countries with arid climates. This request was submitted to UNEP in December 1996.

11. The secretariat also cooperated with the Environment Agency of Japan, and other institutions and agencies in the organization of the Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change, held in Suva, Fiji, on 4-8 November 1996.

12. In February 1997, in conjunction with the fifth session of the SBI, the Secretariat of the GEF, UNDP, UNEP and the Convention secretariat will organize the GEF - UNFCCC Workshop on National Communications. This workshop is intended to

familiarize delegates of non-Annex I Parties with the process of preparing their national communications and accessing financial resources for these activities.

### C. Organization of CC:FORUM

13. The secretariat has continued to organize meetings of the informal consultative group aimed at coordinating the exchange of views on the provision of technical and financial support to developing countries and economies in transition (CC:FORUM).

14. The fourth and fifth meetings of CC:FORUM took place in Geneva on 15 July and 19 December 1996 respectively. Both meetings were attended by representatives from Parties, bilateral and multilateral organizations, and NGOs, and issues relating to the preparation of the initial national communications of non-Annex I Parties were discussed.

15. The fifth meeting of CC:FORUM, in particular, consisted of a one-day session that addressed the requests expressed by Parties in decision 10/CP.2. The conclusions of this meeting are contained in annex II to this document.

16. The sixth meeting of CC:FORUM is being organized in February 1997 to consider the implementation of these conclusions and to discuss further steps to be taken. The secretariat will continue to report on the outcomes of CC:FORUM, in its progress report which will be submitted to the SBI at its sixth session.

17. The Convention secretariat is working with the Secretariat of the GEF, UNDP and UNEP in the development of a project aimed at providing, in a proactive and systematic manner, non-Annex I Parties with technical and financial support needed to complete their initial national communications in the light of the guidelines contained in decision 10/CP.2.

### D. Information exchange

18. The work of the secretariat in this area has been focusing on enhancing the information flow related to the preparation of initial national communications by non-Annex I Parties. To this end, a number of activities, including the development of new information products, have been carried out.

19. Among these activities, is the Update to CC:INFO Report - February 1997 which has been prepared, and will be distributed to more than 500 recipients in developing countries, bilateral and multilateral organizations, and government bodies. This update provides current information on each Party's activities related to the implementation of the Convention. An information package will be distributed to the Heads of Delegations attending the fifth session of the Subsidiary Bodies.

20. The secretariat has also made progress in a related activity, namely CC:INFO/Web. The goal of this activity is to encourage Parties to develop national web sites on climate change and the implementation of the Convention, and to foster the growth of a network of such sites for the sharing of information and ideas, including the preparation of national communications.

21. CC:INFO/Web seeks to respond to a request of the SBI in March 1996 to prepare proposals for strengthening and expanding the secretariat's information activities (CC:INFO). It has been developed with assistance provided by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil, funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and taking into account comments, suggestions and observations from Parties which expressed interest in joining this initiative and contributing to its development. These Parties include Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Senegal, Seychelles, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Venezuela, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

22. This web-based system is appropriate for compiling and sharing information sets, tables and other material, the production of which requires inputs from several individuals and institutions. This applies particularly to cross-disciplinary, multi-sectoral efforts such as those undertaken by a Party to prepare a national communication.

23. A CC:INFO/Web CD-ROM will be distributed to Heads of Delegations attending the fifth session of the Subsidiary Bodies with a view to familiarizing Parties with its concept, and to seek their guidance on possible next steps to be taken with regard to ways and means to strengthen and expand the exchange of information on the implementation of the Convention by taking advantage of recent developments in electronic communication.

#### E. Training

24. CC:TRAIN is a three-year UNDP project that supports the efforts of 17 developing countries in various regions to implement the Convention, particularly in preparing their initial national communications. CC:TRAIN is funded by the GEF and bilateral donors, and executed by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in collaboration with UNFCCC and UNEP.

25. CC:TRAIN supports the establishment of national climate change bodies, or "country teams", entrusted with the task of preparing the national communication. Since the inception of its second phase in May 1996, eight participating countries in Africa and Latin America have established country teams and in most cases organized national workshops on climate change and the Convention. In most other countries, an initial national communication team has also been established.

26. Starting in March 1997, a series of national and regional workshops will take place in Africa and Latin America. There will be ten events in Africa, 14 events in Latin America and a number of other events in the Asia-Pacific region in partnership with the GEF-funded UNDP Pacific Island Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP).

27. The secretariat has also contracted UNITAR/CC:TRAIN with the development of a standard presentation and information package designed to inform national decision and policy makers on the guidelines for the national communications of non-Annex I Parties. This material, to be developed in English, French and Spanish, will be made available to Parties and multilateral and bilateral organizations for their use in national and regional events on the preparation of initial national communications.

## Annex I

### Parties not Included in Annex I to the Convention: Information on the Submission of Initial National Communications

As of 10 February 1997

(in alphabetical order)

| Party                  | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission                | Source of information                         |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Algeria             | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  |                         | No date determined                                   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 2. Antigua and Barbuda | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-Mar-97  |                         |  |   |
| 3. Argentina           | Latin America and Caribbean | 09-June-97                                       |                         |  |   |
| 4. Bahamas             | Latin America and Caribbean | 27-June-97                                       |                         |  |   |
| 5. Bahrain             | Asia and Pacific            | 28-Mar-98  |                         |  |   |
| 6. Bangladesh          | Asia and Pacific            | 14-July-97                                       | Least Developed Country | Work not yet started                                 | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 7. Barbados            | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-June-97                                       |                         | No date determined                                   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 8. Belize              | Latin America and Caribbean | 29-Jan-98  |                         |  |   |
| 9. Benin               | Africa                      | 28-Sept-97                                       | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 10. Bhutan             | Asia and Pacific            | 23-Nov-98  | Least Developed Country | Expected date is Sep 99                              | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 11. Bolivia            | Latin America and Caribbean | 01-Jan-98  |                         | To be initiated; expected duration of work 12 months | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |

<sup>1</sup> Each Party not listed in Annex I shall make its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 3.

<sup>2</sup> Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial communication at their discretion.

| Party                                     | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission                   | Source of information                         |
|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| 12. Botswana                              | Africa                      | 27-Apr-97  |                         | Expected date is June 98                                | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 13. Brazil                                | Latin America and Caribbean | 29-May-97  |                         |   |   |
| 14. Burkina Faso                          | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 15. Burundi                               | Africa                      | 07-Apr-2000                                      | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 16. Cambodia                              | Asia and Pacific            | 17-Mar-99  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 17. Cameroon                              | Africa                      | 17-Jan-98  |                         |   |   |
| 18. Cape Verde                            | Africa                      | 27-June-98                                       | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 19. Central African Republic              | Africa                      | 08-June-98                                       | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 20. Chad                                  | Africa                      | 05-Sept-97                                       | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 21. Chile                                 | Latin America and Caribbean | 22-Mar-98  |                         |   |   |
| 22. China                                 | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | On-going  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 23. Colombia                              | Latin America and Caribbean | 20-June-98                                       |                         |   |   |
| 24. Comoros                               | Africa                      | 29-Jan-98  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 25. Congo                                 | Africa                      | 12-Jan-2000                                      |                         |   |   |
| 26. Cook Islands                          | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Expected not later than September 1997                  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 27. Costa Rica                            | Latin America and Caribbean | 24-Nov-97  |                         | No date fixed   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 28. Côte d'Ivoire                         | Africa                      | 27-Feb-98  |                         |   |   |
| 29. Cuba                                  | Latin America and Caribbean | 05-Apr-97  |                         |   |   |
| 30. Democratic People's Republic of Korea | Asia and Pacific            | 05-Mar-98  |                         | No date fixed. There is a need for technical assistance | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 31. Djibouti                              | Africa                      | 25-Nov-98  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 32. Dominica                              | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Expected to be submitted in March 97                    | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |



| Party             | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission  | Source of information                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|---|
| 33. Ecuador       | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-Mar-97  |                         |  |   |
| 34. Egypt         | Africa                      | 05-Mar-98  |                         |  |   |
| 35. El Salvador   | Latin America and Caribbean | 03-Mar-99  |                         | The date for submission has not yet been decided; work on the inventory was to start in 1996, and the national communication might be completed in 1997. | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 36. Eritrea       | Africa                      | 23-July-98                                       | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 37. Ethiopia      | Africa                      | 04-July-97                                       | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 38. Fiji          | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Expected 31/01/97  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 39. Gambia        | Africa                      | 08-Sept-97                                       | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 40. Ghana         | Africa                      | 05-Dec-98  |                         |  |   |
| 41. Grenada       | Latin America and Caribbean | 09-Nov-97  |                         |  |   |
| 42. Guatemala     | Latin America and Caribbean | 14-Mar-99  |                         | The process of requesting financial assistance has been started in 1996; work on the preparation of the communication will probably start in 1997.       | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 43. Guinea        | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 44. Guinea-Bissau | Africa                      | 25-Jan-99  | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 45. Guyana        | Latin America and Caribbean | 27-Nov-97  |                         |  |   |
| 46. Haiti         | Latin America and Caribbean | 24-Dec-99  | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 47. Honduras      | Latin America and Caribbean | 17-Jan-99  |                         |  |   |
| 48. India         | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Work on-going  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 49. Indonesia     | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Nov-97  |                         | Expected end 1997  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |

| Party                                | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission   | Source of information                         |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| 50. Iran (Islamic Republic of)       | Asia and Pacific            | 16-Oct-99  |                         | The national communication is expected to be completed within 18-24 months. It will definitely be ready within three years. | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 51. Jamaica                          | Latin America and Caribbean | 06-Apr-98  |                         | No date fixed   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 52. Jordan                           | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | No date fixed   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |
| 53. Kenya                            | Africa                      | 28-Nov-97  |                         |   |   |
| 54. Kiribati                         | Asia and Pacific            | 08-May-98  | Least Developed Country | Work not yet started  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 55. Kuwait                           | Asia and Pacific            | 28-Mar-98  |                         |   |   |
| 56. Lao People's Democratic Republic | Asia and Pacific            | 04-Apr-98  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 57. Lebanon                          | Asia and Pacific            | 15-Mar-98  |                         |   |   |
| 58. Lesotho                          | Africa                      | 08-May-98  |                         |   |   |
| 59. Lesotho                          | Africa                      | 08-May-98  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 60. Malawi                           | Africa                      | 20-July-97                                       | Least Developed Country | Expected 15/12/98   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 61. Malaysia                         | Asia and Pacific            | 11-Oct-97  |                         |   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 62. Maldives                         | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | On-going; expected in 1998  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 63. Maldives                         | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 64. Mali                             | Africa                      | 28-Mar-98  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 65. Mali                             | Africa                      | 28-Mar-98  |                         |   |   |
| 66. Marshall Islands                 | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Work not yet started  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change  |
| 67. Mauritania                       | Africa                      | 20-Apr-97  | Least Developed Country |   |   |
| 68. Mauritius                        | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  |                         |   |   |
| 69. Mexico                           | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-Mar-97  |                         | The expected date for submission of the national communication is February 1997.  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions |

| Party                                   | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission  | Source of information   |
|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|---|
| 70. Micronesia<br>(Federated States of) | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | The expected date for submission of the national communication is February 1997.   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 71. Mongolia                            | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | No date fixed, but preliminary estimate is October 1997.   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 72. Morocco                             | Africa                      | 27-Mar-99  |                         | No date fixed  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 73. Mozambique                          | Africa                      | 23-Nov-98  | Least Developed Country | The inventories and vulnerability assessments are expected to be ready in March 1997; the preparation of the national communication will begin at that time. | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 74. Myanmar                             | Asia and Pacific            | 23-Feb-98  | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 75. Namibia                             | Africa                      | 14-Aug-98  |                         |  |   |
| 76. Nauru                               | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         |  |   |
| 77. Nepal                               | Asia and Pacific            | 31-July-97                                       | Least Developed Country |  |   |
| 78. Nicaragua                           | Latin America and Caribbean | 29-Jan-99  |                         |  |   |
| 79. Niger                               | Africa                      | 23-Oct-98  | Least Developed Country | No date fixed  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 80. Nigeria                             | Africa                      | 27-Nov-97  |                         |  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions, and Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar |
| 81. Niue                                | Asia and Pacific            | 28-May-99  |                         | Expected submission date is June 1997  |   |
| 82. Oman                                | Asia and Pacific            | 09-May-98  |                         |  |   |
| 83. Pakistan                            | Asia and Pacific            | 30-Aug-97  |                         | The national communication is being prepared. Estimated time of submission is August 1997.   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 84. Panama                              | Latin America and Caribbean | 21-Aug-98  |                         |  |   |
| 85. Papua New Guinea                    | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Expected some time in 1997   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                 |
| 86. Paraguay                            | Latin America and Caribbean | 25-May-97  |                         |  |   |

| Party                                | Region  | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission  | Source of information  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|--|--|
| 87. Peru                             | Latin America and Caribbean<br>Asia and Pacific | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Work not yet started   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change                                   |
| 88. Philippines                      |   | 31-Oct-97  |                         |  |  |
| 89. Qatar                            | Asia and Pacific                                | 17-July-99                                       |                         | Expected in the first half of 1997   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                  |
| 90. Republic of Korea                | Asia and Pacific                                | 21-Mar-97  |                         |  |  |
| 91. Saint Kitts and Nevis            | Latin America and Caribbean                     | 21-Mar-97  |                         |  |  |
| 92. Saint Lucia                      | Latin America and Caribbean                     | 21-Mar-97  |                         | The assistance of the GEF was requested to prepare the initial communication. A draft timetable of about 24 months was prepared. Expected submission date is March 1999. | Letter to the secretariat dated 23 January 1997                                |
| 93. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | Latin America and Caribbean                     | 02-Mar-2000                                      |                         |  |  |
| 94. Samoa                            | Asia and Pacific                                | 27-Feb-98  | Least Developed Country | Work not yet started   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change                                   |
| 95. Saudi Arabia                     | Asia and Pacific                                | 28-Mar-98  |                         | Expected time of submission is the first half of 1997  | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions                                  |
| 96. Senegal                          | Africa  | 15-Jan-98  |                         |  |  |
| 97. Seychelles                       | Africa  | 21-Mar-97  |                         | First draft ready for Kyoto; final by mid-1998   | Written communication to secretariat   |
| 98. Sierra Leone                     | Africa  | 20-Sept-98                                       | Least Developed Country |  |  |
| 99. Solomon Islands                  | Asia and Pacific                                | 28-Mar-98  | Least Developed Country | Work not yet started   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change                                   |
| 100. Sri Lanka                       | Asia and Pacific                                | 21-Mar-97  |                         | On-going   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change; communication to the secretariat |
| 101. Sudan                           | Africa  | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |  |  |

| Party                            | Region                      | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission   | Source of information                            |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| 102. Swaziland                   | Africa                      | 05-Jan-2000                                      |                         | A project proposal is with the GEF since November 1996. Preparation of the national communication was to start in January 1997. Submission date is not fixed.   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions    |
| 103. Syrian Arab Republic        | Asia and Pacific            | 03-Apr-99  |                         |   |  |
| 104. Thailand                    | Asia and Pacific            | 28-Mar-98  |                         | Expected March 1998   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change     |
| 105. Togo                        | Africa                      | 06-June-98                                       | Least Developed Country |   |  |
| 106. Trinidad and Tobago         | Latin America and Caribbean | 22-Sept-97                                       |                         |   |  |
| 107. Tunisia                     | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Three years from inception of GEF project, which will start 01/97   | Communication to secretariat                     |
| 108. Tuvalu                      | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country | Work not yet started  | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change     |
| 109. Uganda                      | Africa                      | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |   |  |
| 110. United Arab Emirates        | Asia and Pacific            | 28-Mar-99  |                         |   |  |
| 111. United Republic of Tanzania | Africa                      | 16-July-99                                       | Least Developed Country |   |  |
| 112. Uruguay                     | Latin America and Caribbean | 16-Nov-97  |                         |   |  |
| 113. Uzbekistan                  | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  |                         | Preparation of the GHG inventory has started. The date of the submission of the national communication would depend on the timely availability of funds from the GEF and is tentatively scheduled for the end of 1998. Work not yet started | Letter to the secretariat dated 6 December 1996. |
| 114. Vanuatu                     | Asia and Pacific            | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |   | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change     |
| 115. Venezuela                   | Latin America and Caribbean | 28-Mar-98  |                         | No date fixed   | Oral communication during the Dec 96 sessions    |

| Party         | Region           | Three years from entry into force <sup>1,2</sup> | Note <sup>2</sup>       | Information on the date of submission | Source of information                        |
|---------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 116. Viet Nam | Asia and Pacific | 14-Feb-98  |                         | Expected July-December 1997           | Sixth Asia-Pacific Seminar on Climate Change |
| 117. Yemen    | Africa           | 21-May-99  | Least Developed Country |                                       |  |
| 118. Zaire    | Africa           | 09-Apr-98  | Least Developed Country |                                       |  |
| 119. Zambia   | Africa           | 21-Mar-97  | Least Developed Country |                                       |  |
| 120. Zimbabwe | Africa           | 21-Mar-97  |                         |                                       |  |

## Annex II

### Recommendations<sup>3</sup> of the Fifth Meeting of CC:FORUM

The Fifth Meeting of CC:FORUM was held on 19 December 1996 in Geneva, Switzerland. This meeting of CC:FORUM was focused on facilitating the process of preparation of initial national communications of Parties not included in Annex I. It was divided in the following two sessions:

#### Morning Session

This session concentrated on exchanging ideas on how best to implement the request made by Parties at COP2 that they are provided with a "forum for the exchange of experiences in the development of emission factors and activity data for the estimation of the inventory, as well as, on request, for other elements of information in the initial communications" (Decision 10/CP.2, paragraph 1. (a)).

#### Afternoon Session

The focus of this session was on facilitating assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their initial national communications, including through the organisation of workshops at the regional level.

The meeting adopted the following recommendations:

#### A. Workshops

1. The organization of regional workshops was recommended to stimulate and accelerate the process of preparation of the initial communication of Parties not included in Annex I.
2. A minimum of three workshops of three-day duration were decided as suitable.
3. The workshops should be held within mid-1997.
4. The workshops could be sponsored by:
  - 4.1 the GEF through its Implementing Agencies, with participation of the IPCC and in cooperation with the Convention secretariat;
  - 4.2 bilateral agencies; the Government of Japan agreed to explore the possibility of funding or organizing one of such workshops in the Asia-Pacific region.

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<sup>3</sup> These recommendations are reported as adopted at the fifth meeting of CC:FORUM, without editing by the secretariat.

5. The workshops would focus on:

5.1 providing Parties not included in Annex I with a forum for the exchange of experiences on emission factors and activity data;

5.2 facilitating the preparation of national communications in general.

6. The output of the workshops would be to:

6.1 promote the establishment of appropriate national institutional arrangements, such as climate change committees, which are key to the effective implementation of the Convention;

6.2 increase the awareness on reporting obligations and availability of funds;

6.3 present and discuss COP2 guidelines on non-Annex I Parties' communications;

6.4 take stock of national activities related to emission factors. Participating countries would make presentations on emission factors that would, inter alia, show which factors they used in the preparations of the inventories, and how these were developed;

6.5 identify the national gaps in emission factors and activity data. Where appropriate, these gaps could be addressed by means of regional projects to be submitted for funding to the GEF (as recommended by Parties in Decision 10/CP.2, paragraph 13);

6.6 exchange information and experiences in the preparation of inventories, with a view to increasing their transparency and comparability;

6.7 promote the emergence of a networking arrangement (see below, B. Networking).

7. This series of three or more regional workshops would be coordinated to fit in with any suitable currently scheduled regional event in order to make them more cost effective and to maximize impact.

8. The costs of participants would, as far as possible, be covered from relevant existing projects.

9. Particular attention will need to be placed in the compilation of the lists of participants. Given the dual nature of the workshops, both policy makers and technical experts would be required as participants per each invited country.



B. Networking

10. These regional workshops would also discuss and develop the idea of an Internet based system (e-mail list-serve) for the exchange and access of information relating to the preparation of inventories.

11. The system could rely on regional expert organizations acting as "moderators" that would facilitate the discussions by subject area.

12. The meeting also recommended the use of CD-ROMs and the newly-launched Convention secretariat's initiative named CC:INFO/Web, to improve the information flow on inventory and national communications.

13. The Convention secretariat, building on its CC:INFO system, in cooperation with the IPCC and the regional expert organizations, could undertake these networking activities.

14. In-country Internet costs would be included as part of existing and new enabling activities.

15. The above mentioned regional workshops would also be used to identify the regional expert organizations that will act as moderators in this networking scheme.

C. Institutional arrangements

16. The meeting took note of the difficulties expressed by participants in communicating with Parties on issues related to the preparation of inventories. It stressed the importance of ensuring that the above mentioned regional workshops generate indications/nominations of national technical focal points for communications on all issues relating to the preparation of inventories. The questionnaire that was used in the Sixth Asian Pacific Seminar (modified as appropriate), and that was distributed during the meeting of the Forum, could be used by the workshops' organizers to facilitate the collection of such indications/nominations.

D. Collection and dissemination of activity data and emission factors developed locally

17. The meeting emphasized that there are large amounts of information materials related to activity data and emission factors that have been or are being developed locally by Parties in their work for the preparation of the communications. The workshops should become a venue where this materials are presented and shared among all participants.

E. Miscellaneous

18. The meeting recognized that there are a number of countries with no enabling activities or in need of additional enablement for the preparation of the national communications, and that regional workshops are cost-effective vehicles to address their needs.

19. The meeting recognized that a Calendar of Planned Regional and National Events is needed. The Convention secretariat, in cooperation with UNITAR/CC:TRAIN, maintains and distributes such a calendar (a copy of it was distributed at the Forum). Organizations should communicate their plans for this type of events to the Convention secretariat, for inclusion in future releases of the Calendar.

20. The meeting encouraged undertaking all the above activities as part of a single initiative aimed at facilitating Parties not included in Annex I in their preparation of the initial national communications.

21. As far as the provision of estimates on the costs of the regional workshops, UNEP and ENDA/Dakar volunteered to communicate their own estimates by mid-January through the CC:FORUM list-serve. An estimate of costs of a Regional African Conference in Dakar has just been forwarded by ENDA/Dakar to the Convention secretariat.

22. The GEF and its implementing agencies will undertake a stock-taking exercise to assess if and what GEF funds could be used to implement the above activities.

23. Finally, the meeting recommended that regional workshops be arranged in the following regions and sub-regions:

23.1 Two in Africa (French and English languages);

23.2 Two in Latin America and the Caribbean (Spanish and English languages);

23.3 One in Asia.

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