FCCC/SBI/1998/CRP.4 12 June 1998

ENGLISH ONLY

SECOND REVIEW OF THE ADEQUACY OF ARTICLE 4, SUBPARAGRAPHS 2(a) AND (b)

Draft conclusions by the Chairman

1. The SBI reiterated the conclusions made by the Conference of the Parties at its first session (decision 1/CP.1) that subparagraphs 2 (a) and (b) of Article 4 of the Convention are not adequate for the fulfilment of its objective.

2. The SBI recognized that the Kyoto Protocol is an important step.

3. The representative of the G-77 and China speaking on behalf of the Group stated the view that pending entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, concrete measures should be implemented by Annex I Parties toward achieving the aim of returning to the 1990 level of anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and that no new commitments by non-Annex I Parties should be introduced. Some other Parties expressed the view that action by Annex I Parties alone will not be sufficient to meet the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

4. The SBI recommended that the second review of the adequacy of Article 4.2 (a) and (b) be carried out by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session (COP4). Some Parties stated that such a review must consider action related to the adequacy of Article 4, subparagraphs 2 (a) and (b), which includes action by all Parties necessary to meet the objective of the Convention. The representative of the G-77 and China speaking on behalf of the Group stated that COP 4 must not be distracted from carrying out that review as mandated by the Convention by the introduction of any extraneous matters such as the consideration of new commitments for Parties not included in Annex I.

5. The SBI considered the timing of future reviews. The representative of the G-77 and China speaking on behalf of the Group was of the view that the third review should be carried out at the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, taking into account the timing mentioned in Article 9.2 of the Kyoto Protocol; subsequent reviews would take place in the year preceding the termination of each successive commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. Some Parties were of the view that the timing of future reviews should be determined by the Conference of the Parties at its future sessions.

6. The SBI will consider this issue further at its ninth session and invited Parties to submit views on this item by 15 August 1998, and requested the secretariat to compile these views and make them available for its ninth session.

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