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Agenda item 4 (a)

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN
ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION**

**CONSIDERATION OF THE FOURTH COMPILATION AND SYNTHESIS
OF INITIAL NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

The Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its seventeenth session, decided to recommend the following draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session:

Draft decision --/CP.8

**Fourth compilation and synthesis of initial national communications from Parties not included
in Annex I to the Convention**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling in particular Article 4, paragraph 1, Article 10, paragraph 2(a), and Article 12, paragraphs 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7, of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 10/CP.2, 11/CP.2, 12/CP.4, 7/CP.5, 3/CP.6 and 30/CP.7,

Noting that, pursuant to decision 10/CP.2, the national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) should, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 and Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, of the Convention, be taken into account by the Conference of the Parties in considering matters related to their initial national communications,

Noting also that, from its first session onwards, in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 7, of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties has arranged for the provision of both financial and technical support to developing country Parties, on request, in compiling and communicating information under that article, and in identifying the financial and technical needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4 of the Convention,

Having considered the information contained in the fourth compilation and synthesis report on 31 initial national communications from non-Annex I Parties, and the executive summary of 83 initial national communications from such Parties, presented by the secretariat pursuant to decision 30/CP.7,¹ and the relevant recommendations of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,

1. *Takes note* that:

(a) The preparation of national communications has provided an initial opportunity for capacity-building, particularly in the area of national greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation, and mitigation assessments;

(b) Most Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) have used the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*;

(c) National inventories from some non-Annex I Parties have been generally comparable to those of Annex I Parties;

(d) There is some scope for encouraging the preparation of inventories on a continuous basis;

(e) Capacity-building also assists in the establishment and maintenance of the institutional arrangements at national level;

(f) Non-Annex I Parties are continuing to fulfil their commitments under Article 4, paragraph 1, and Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention;

(g) As at 1 June 2002, 20 of 46 least developed country Parties had already submitted their initial national communications while 64 of 100 non-Annex I Parties that are not least developed country Parties had yet to submit their initial national communications;

2. *Concludes* that, in view of the technical constraints and problems encountered in the preparation of national communications, namely difficulties relating to, inter alia, the quality and availability of data, emission factors and methodologies for an assessment of the effects of climate change and impacts of response measures, there is a need for financial and technical resources to maintain and enhance national capacities in non-Annex I Parties for preparing national communications;

3. *Requests*, in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 5, of the Convention, each non-Annex I Party which has not submitted its initial national 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, of the Convention, to do so as soon as possible, on the understanding that Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial national communications at their discretion;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its nineteenth session:

(a) The fifth compilation and synthesis report on issues, constraints and problems encountered in using the relevant UNFCCC guidelines in the preparation of initial national communications submitted by non-Annex I Parties between 1 June 2002 and 1 April 2003;

¹ FCCC/SBI/2002/8 and FCCC/SBI/2002/16.

(b) An information document describing the steps taken by non-Annex I Parties to implement the Convention, based on a representative set of initial national communications and other relevant documents, in order to further facilitate the implementation of projects listed or proposed by non-Annex I Parties in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4 of the Convention;

5. *Requests further* the secretariat to prepare documents on information contained in national communications submitted to the secretariat by non-Annex I Parties, with a view to compiling information on the efforts made by non-Annex I Parties to facilitate the implementation of the Convention in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 1, and Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and make these documents available to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at intervals not exceeding two years.
