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Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9, OF THE CONVENTION

MATTERS RELATING TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Views from Parties on the improvement of the Guidelines for the preparation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) at its seventh session, by its decision 28/CP.7, decided to adopt guidelines for the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs); the guidelines are set out in an annex to that decision. By the same decision, the COP invited Parties to make submissions with a view to improving the guidelines, by 15 July 2002, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its seventeenth session.
2. The secretariat received three such submissions*. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

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SUBMISSION BY DENMARK ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES, AND CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA, HUNGARY, LATVIA, ROMANIA, POLAND, AND SLOVENIA

Copenhagen, 10 July, 2002

“IMPROVING THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF NATIONAL ADAPTION PROGRAMMES OF ACTION”

Denmark, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, and Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Poland, and Slovenia, welcomes the opportunity to submit views on the above subject.

INTRODUCTION

The Conference of the Parties (COP) at its seventh session, recognizing the specific needs and special situations of the least developed countries, decided to adopt the guidelines for the preparation of National Adaption Programmes of Action (NAPAs) as well as to create a Least Developed Countries Experts Group.

The guidelines were included as an Annex to Decision 28/CP.7 and Parties were invited to submit views on them by the 15th July and, if necessary, to change them at the 8th session of the COP. They are structured in six different sections (Introduction, objectives, characteristics, guiding elements, process of preparation and structure of the document) divided in subsections and paragraphs, giving special importance to the identification of key adaptation needs and the prioritisation of activities.

The preparation of NAPAs builds capacity for preparing national communications. Therefore, and bearing in mind that a majority of LDCs have already submitted their initial national communication, NAPAs constitute a first step for preparing national communications or for strengthening the second national communications.

EU VIEWS ON THE PREPARATION OF NAPAs

At this point in time, there is no need for adjusting the initial NAPA guidelines (ref. Decision 28/CP.7). First, sufficient practical experience should be gathered in the course of the preparation of NAPAs on the basis of the existing guidelines, taking into account that the preparation of a NAPA may well require 12-18 months. The scheduled demonstration applications on pilot countries Bangladesh and Zambia are, reportedly, delayed and even after this first LEG exercise there may be a need for some further elaboration to obtain the desired quality of *annotated* guidelines by the LEG with some clarifying application examples.

The requirements to be met by the NAPAs are appropriate and ambitious, notably (i) easy to understand, (ii) action-oriented and country-driven, and (iii) demonstrating clear priority choices through the integrated application of two sets of priority selection criteria, i.e. one set concerning social, economic and ecologic-environmental dimensions, and a second set concerning sector/region-oriented dimensions (ref. section D of the NAPA guidelines).

Meeting these requirements calls for qualified national NAPA teams recruited from qualified and experienced professionals with hands-on experience from planning in vulnerable sectors/regions. Furthermore, national NAPA teams should consult and act in coordination with the GEF/Climate/Biodiversity/Desertification and other relevant Focal points of international conventions, supplemented with, if needed, the advice of the LEG.

Views of the Republic of The Gambia on Matters relating to Least Developed Countries:

Improving the Guidelines for the Preparation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action.

The Guidelines for the Preparation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) have gone through iterative process of improvement and are just beginning to be used by LDC Parties for the development of NAPAs. In the view of the Republic of The Gambia it is needless to revise the Guidelines at this stage but instead encourage the process of their annotation by the LDC Expert Group and subsequent application for the development of NAPAs by Parties.

Soumission pour révision des lignes directrices PANA - MALI

Bien que le délai soit dépassé, je voudrais faire ma soumission pour la révision des lignes directrices PANA. Je pense qu'il vaut mieux différer la révision des lignes directrices jusqu'à la COP9. En effet, avec les lignes directrices annotées par le Groupe d'Experts PMA, les Parties PMA qui auront leurs financements pourront préparer leurs PANA. En outre, les enseignements tirés de la simulation effectuée par le Groupe d'experts pourraient servir avec l'expérience acquise par les pays qui auront élaboré leurs PANA pour examiner au SBI-18 la révision des lignes directrices à la COP9.

En conclusion, mon Pays serait favorable à ce qu'on adopte à la COP8 les lignes directrices annotées par le Groupe d'Experts PMA et qu'ensuite on révise les lignes directrices à la COP9. Veuillez recevoir mes salutations distinguées.

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