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**Item 6 of the provisional agenda**

**Article 6 of the Convention**

**Possible elements of a work programme to succeed the New Delhi  
work programme on Article 6 of the Convention**

**Note by the secretariat\***

**Summary**

The New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention provides a framework for country-driven action on issues relating to climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation. It was adopted by the Conference of the Parties (COP), at its eighth session, and comes to an end by the thirteenth session of the COP. This document presents possible elements for a future work programme, including a proposed implementation plan for further consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its twenty-seventh session, based on views from Parties and consistent with the proposed next steps in the review of the implementation of the New Delhi work programme (FCCC/SBI/2007/22).

\* This document is submitted after the due date to include conclusions from documents completed in September.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its twenty-sixth session, recognized that the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention is a long-term process, and that a framework supporting its further realization is needed to sustain and promote national efforts. The SBI acknowledged that the New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention should be extended and adapted to address gaps and needs identified by Parties in reviewing the work programme.<sup>1</sup>

2. The SBI invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 17 August 2007, their views on possible elements of an extended work programme for compilation into a miscellaneous document, and requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report of these views that could form the basis of a future work programme, taking into account the proposed strategic approach outlined in document FCCC/SBI/2006/17.

### B. Scope of the note

3. This document outlines the possible elements that could further guide the implementation of Article 6, drawing upon information presented in the synthesis report on regional workshops on Article 6 of the Convention,<sup>2</sup> and views from Parties on the implementation of the New Delhi work programme<sup>3</sup> and on possible elements of a work programme to succeed the New Delhi work programme.<sup>4</sup>

4. In addition, the document draws on emerging issues outlined in the review of the New Delhi work programme,<sup>5</sup> and information presented in the report on the workshop for small island developing States on Article 6 of the Convention,<sup>6</sup> which took place after the synthesis report on the regional workshops mentioned in paragraph 3 above was prepared.

### C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI may wish to consider the elements outlined in this document in making recommendations on a new or enhanced framework for the implementation of Article 6.

## II. Overview of the New Delhi work programme

6. Article 6 of the Convention, which addresses education, training, public awareness, public participation and access to information in relation to climate change and its effects, and international cooperation in these matters, is key in engaging all stakeholders and major groups in the development and implementation of policies relating to climate change. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 11/CP.8, adopted the New Delhi work programme (2002–2007) to serve as a flexible framework for country-driven action on Article 6 in addressing the specific needs and circumstances of Parties, and reflecting their national priorities and initiatives.

7. The scope of activities under the work programme classifies them under the following four broad categories to reflect the six elements of Article 6: international cooperation; education; training; and

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/15, paragraph 61.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2006/17.

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/MISC.3 and Add.1.

<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/MISC.10.

<sup>5</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/22.

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/17.

public awareness, public participation and public access to information.<sup>7</sup> The implementation plan for the work programme is structured into actions by Parties, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); support; review of progress and reporting; and role of the secretariat.

8. The implementation plan is non-binding and indicative, allowing Parties to take into account their national circumstances and capacities. It promotes the creation of partnerships with other Parties, as well as with IGOs, NGOs and other relevant organizations, to facilitate the implementation of the activities, including the identification of priority areas for support and funding.

9. It recognizes that national institutions and capacities need to be strengthened and that a mechanism needs to be established to provide and exchange information. In particular, it recommends the designation of a national focal point for Article 6, who could, inter alia, identify areas for possible international cooperation and opportunities for strengthening synergies with other conventions.

10. Although there is no specific financial mechanism to support the implementation of the work programme, the COP requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to provide financial resources to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) and encouraged other multilateral and bilateral organizations to support capacity-building activities in non-Annex I Parties.

### **III. Review of implementation of the New Delhi work programme**

11. Under the New Delhi work programme, all Parties were requested to report in their national communications, where possible, and in other reports on their accomplishments, lessons learned, experiences gained, and remaining gaps and barriers observed. IGOs and NGOs were invited to develop programmatic responses to the work programme and to provide relevant information on their activities to the secretariat.

12. The secretariat was requested to prepare reports to the SBI on progress made by Parties; and to facilitate inputs into the work programme by IGOs and NGOs. A review of implementation of the work programme has been undertaken by the secretariat for consideration by the SBI at its twenty-seventh session (FCCC/SBI/2007/22). The review outlines the key developments since the inception of the work programme, gaps and needs, as well as opportunities in planning for and implementing related activities, and assessing their effectiveness in supporting the implementation of Article 6.

13. The review report notes that the New Delhi work programme is an adequate framework for country-driven action and that its success lies in its flexible and country-driven approach, which recognizes that no single strategy for raising awareness or building capacity is appropriate for all countries. It highlights the lack of financial and technical resources as the major impediment for non-Annex I Parties in their attempts to implement climate education and outreach activities adequately.

14. The report also acknowledges that too little attention has been given to the implementation of the New Delhi work programme at the national and regional levels because of a lack of:

- (a) Defined time frames and milestones;
- (b) Specific references to the needs of target population groups;
- (c) Measurable indicators of level of implementation;
- (d) Concrete elements to facilitate regional cooperation;

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<sup>7</sup> Decision 11/CP.8, annex, paragraphs 11–14.

- (e) Adequate financial and technical resources.

15. The report concludes with a list of possible next steps that are consistent with the views from Parties synthesized in chapter IV below. Many concrete actions from that review have been integrated into the proposed elements for the future work programme presented in chapter V below.

## **IV. Views on a future work programme on Article 6 of the Convention**

### **A. Synthesis of views from submissions by Parties**

16. Many suggestions were made by Parties in their submissions on possible elements for enhancing the New Delhi work programme. A total of 12 Parties,<sup>8</sup> representing the views of 45 Parties, submitted their views on the implementation of the New Delhi work programme<sup>9</sup> and on possible elements of a work programme to succeed it.<sup>10</sup>

17. Parties agreed that the New Delhi work programme has proved to be an adequate framework for country-driven action and has so far acted as a useful guide for the implementation of Article 6, and recommended that a future approach should build on it (China, European Community (EC), Japan and United States of America), and that a totally new work programme should not be drafted (United States).

18. Some Parties suggested that a new five-year mandate (EC and Japan) be given to follow immediately after the current mandate expires in December 2007 (China and EC), with an intermediate review after three years.

19. Parties recognized that the success of the New Delhi work programme is based on its flexible and country-driven approach and suggested that this same approach should be the basis for the elaboration of a future work programme, given that no single strategy for raising awareness or building capacity is appropriate for all countries or regions (United States).

20. To promote effective implementation of the future work programme within the next five years, many Parties agreed that for one or more of the elements of Article 6, a practical plan of action should be developed to include clear objectives and anticipated results, time frames and milestones, and roles and responsibilities of different actors and stakeholders (Bolivia, EC, Japan, Uruguay and Uzbekistan). The choice of which element to focus on would depend on national needs and circumstances, and would be country-driven. The submission from the EC further suggested that Parties could commit to undertake at least one element of Article 6, according to their national priorities.

21. For example, a few Parties proposed an emphasis on public awareness (United States and Uzbekistan) along with education as an instrument to ensure sustainable development (United States), while other Parties suggested putting forward training and mentoring (China, Gambia, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan) as well as more general cooperation, exchange of materials and networking (China, Gambia and South Africa).

22. In defining the scope of the future work programme, it is proposed that the purpose of each of the six elements of Article 6 be elaborated to highlight their specific contributions to the different steps of the learning process, and to increase the focus on sharing experiences and good practices that take into account national circumstances and capacities (EC).

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<sup>8</sup> Australia, Bolivia, China, European Community and its member States, Gambia, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, United States of America, Uruguay and Uzbekistan.

<sup>9</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/MISC.3 and Add.1.

<sup>10</sup> FCCC/SBI/2007/MISC.10.

23. The list of suggested activities proposed under the New Delhi work programme<sup>11</sup> which could be undertaken by Parties is still considered to be appropriate, and could be further enhanced to better address matters relating to training, public access to information and public participation (EC). The following are selected additional activities from submissions:

- (a) Facilitate public access to existing information on the most relevant sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, considering country-specific circumstances (EC);
- (b) Facilitate public access to consumer information such as labeling related to GHG emissions associated with different kinds of products and services ('carbon calculators') in order to increase public participation (EC);
- (c) Communicate information on adaptation (EC);
- (d) Improve public access to information by making available compilations of sources of available data, information and materials (EC);
- (e) Promote adaptation solutions in relevant sectors and best practices in lowering emissions ('low carbon economy and energy efficiency') through systematic training of personnel by including these aspects in school and college curricula on a standardized basis (EC);
- (f) Prepare and disseminate to different stakeholders reference materials and guidebooks on a wide range of topics (Uzbekistan);
- (g) Strengthen professional training on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (Uzbekistan);
- (h) Improve collaboration with education, training and public awareness programmes of other major multilateral environmental agreements (Uzbekistan);
- (i) Promote mentoring and exchange of personnel and materials (Bolivia, China and Gambia);
- (j) Develop and launch information campaigns (Bolivia);
- (k) Advance the work on the information network clearing house (CC:iNet), in particular with regard to information in other languages (Gambia);
- (l) Further promote regional and international cooperation by mobilizing partnerships and networking with other Parties, IGOs, NGOs, the private sector, state and local government and community-based organizations (EC);
- (m) Develop regional strategies and cooperative activities where Parties wish to do so (EC, United States and South Africa).

24. The lack of financial and technical resources is a major impediment for non-Annex I Parties to implement climate education and outreach activities adequately, as reported by some Parties (Bolivia, China, Gambia, South Africa and Uzbekistan). Although most of those Parties recognized that one way to secure funding is to integrate an education and outreach component into projects funded by the GEF, they emphasized the need to leverage additional and adequate support from the GEF and/or other donors for the implementation of the future work programme. Financial institutions that may be involved in funding activities related to the implementation of Article 6 include the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and the Asian Development Bank (Australia).

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<sup>11</sup> Decision 11/CP.8, paragraph 15.

25. Parties proposed that IGOs and NGOs should be invited to continue their efforts to implement education and outreach activities and cooperate with Parties (Australia and EC).
26. Measurable performance indicators would need to be defined in order to monitor the implementation of the plan of action within the future work programme (Bolivia, EC, Japan, Uruguay and Uzbekistan). A baseline could be established by applying relevant tools for monitoring (EC).
27. On reporting on Article 6 activities, one Party recognized that national communications are the most effective tool with which Parties are able to report (EC); another proposed that Parties be encouraged to provide more information on good practices in their national communications and other documents (Japan). However, one Party noted that, in order to avoid linking reporting on Article 6 with national communications from non-Annex I Parties, workshops, meetings and other means of information exchange are viewed to be more appropriate reporting tools for Article 6 activities (Saudi Arabia).
28. As emphasized by one Party, there are many actions taking place in countries without the formal label of Article 6 and the New Delhi work programme, but which are relevant to its implementation and that Parties wishing to do so should make available this information to other Parties through CC:iNet (Switzerland). In addition, further promotion and facilitation of exchange of information and materials, and sharing of experience and good practices, should be carried out through, inter alia, regional workshops, mentoring, exchange of personnel between Parties and making full use of CC:iNet (EC).
29. On the role of the secretariat, Parties indicated that this should be to add value to the process, and should focus on the unique expertise/assistance that international partners can contribute, rather than on duplicating existing country efforts (Australia). The future work programme would probably require more intensive coordination by the secretariat, such as through active promotion of the use of CC:iNet, organization of workshops to promote and facilitate the exchange of information and materials, and the sharing of experiences and good practices (EC).
30. It is expected that CC:iNet will play a central role in facilitating communication and dissemination of good practices and lessons learned from Article 6 activities (EC), especially after substantial improvement (United States).<sup>12</sup>

### **B. Synthesis of views from regional workshops**

31. Feedback from participants in regional workshops indicated a range of priorities by country among the six elements of Article 6, which illustrates the diversity of regional and national needs and capacities. The success of the regional workshops underpinned the important role of regional cooperation and the strength of existing regional networks. A proposal was made to promote the role of United Nations bodies in extending existing partnerships or fostering development of new partnerships on climate change at the regional level, to address common needs and to support emerging regional efforts.
32. Participants in regional workshops reported that the New Delhi work programme is providing a positive working environment and highlighted that it contributes to better awareness of climate change. Nevertheless they reported that too little attention has been paid to its implementation at the national and regional levels because of its lack of defined time frames and milestones, specific references to the needs of target population groups, measurable indicators of level of implementation, and adequate funding.
33. Participants also emphasized the importance of identifying and engaging existing national and regional resources, and suggested that priority in implementing work under Article 6 be given to strengthening regional cooperation. Nevertheless they also recognized that regional cooperation can

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<sup>12</sup> Proposed enhancements to CC:iNet are presented in document FCCC/SBI/2007/26.

complement but not replace efforts at the national level, and fostering ongoing national efforts is another area to focus on.

34. One important element identified by most participants is the need for non-Annex I Parties to establish a national climate change committee with a dedicated outreach unit or information centre, designed to service all relevant ministries and departments, to facilitate communication to national policy makers. As a minimum, Parties supported the nomination of a national focal point for Article 6, but recognized that these focal points may need more support to be able to undertake their role effectively.

35. Participants stressed the importance of building partnerships between environmental institutions and other ministries, the media, business and industry, civil society organizations and regional centres, and observed that the private sector was not yet fully engaged in climate change issues. They suggested that support should be enhanced for establishing climate change related regional networks and centres of excellence, as well as for climate change related training for stakeholders, from policymakers to the media and affected communities. Priority areas identified by participants for training include strengthening the capacity to conduct, process and interpret research data on climate change, and enhancing the negotiating skills of climate change practitioners in order for these practitioners to influence decision makers at the regional and international levels.

36. Participants identified the media as an important channel for reaching out to the public and key stakeholders, and emphasized the need to educate and increase awareness of the media on environmental issues and climate change in particular. Conducting surveys to assess knowledge and awareness of the public was identified as a useful basis for targeting outreach efforts to change public attitudes and behaviour.

37. Participants also emphasized the key role of information technologies in building up information resources and enhancing partnerships and networking in the areas of education, training and dissemination of information. Use of the Internet allows for greater efficiency in the preparation of national communications, increased coordination among agencies involved in climate change issues and heightened public awareness. Ministries of environment in most countries have created websites on climate change that include information on the preparation of their initial national communications, updates about climate change, project descriptions and publications. Although the Internet facilitates access to materials and information from regional and international sources, linguistic barriers still have to be overcome in many cases.

38. The English language is commonly used in disseminating information to stakeholders, but participants recognized that it would be necessary to use local languages and dialects in raising awareness and communicating climate change messages to promote action among the general public and local populations.

39. Priority measures identified to support the implementation of educational activities include the development of curricula, the development and dissemination of educational and study materials on climate change and the establishment of information networks and education centres.

40. Participants ranked policymakers followed by the general public, in particular the youth, as key target audiences. The importance of the clergy as well as the role of women was underscored by some participants, who suggested that emphasis should be given to educating these groups on environmental issues in general to enable them to convey awareness of the risks and impacts of climate change effectively to the general public and youth groups.



### C. Proposed approach

41. Based on the evaluation of the New Delhi work programme and the views expressed by Parties, rather than elaborate a new framework for action, there is strong support for extending the New Delhi work programme with a few enhancements and additions in the many areas mentioned in this chapter. This could be done by means of a COP decision that would extend the mandate of the New Delhi work programme for a specified duration, with a list of additional elements to be taken into account. Such additional elements could be drawn from the enhancements proposed in chapter V below.

## V. Proposed enhancements to the New Delhi work programme

### A. Scope of the work programme for the six elements of Article 6

42. Each of the six elements of Article 6 could be expanded as follows to highlight the specific purpose and contributions expected towards the process of building knowledge to facilitate action on climate change, such as public participation, while building on the specific activities mentioned in paragraph 23 above:

- (a) **Education** – Promote, facilitate and cooperate in the development and implementation of scholastic and extra scholastic activities and education on climate change, through integration of environmental issues in curricula, family education and other activities to promote self-learning and life-long learning;
- (b) **Training** – Promote, facilitate and cooperate in the development and implementation of training activities designed to enhance knowledge and build capacity in specific areas, such as: the Kyoto mechanisms; dissemination of new technology and energy efficiency; climate change mitigation and low-carbon economy; and adaptation strategies;
- (c) **Public awareness** – Promote, facilitate and cooperate in developing public awareness of climate change issues, and encourage contributions and personal action in addressing climate change, supporting climate-friendly policies and fostering behavioural changes, including by using popular media;
- (d) **Public access to information** – Promote transparency in policies by providing information on climate change initiatives, policies and results of actions; facilitate public access to data and information taking into account local and national circumstances such as quality of Internet access, literacy and language issues;
- (e) **Public participation** – Facilitate feedback, debate and partnership in climate change activities, and in governance;
- (f) **International cooperation** – Develop networks and promote collaboration in the implementation of capacity-building activities, exchange of experiences on good practices and lessons learned, and communication on adaptation to climate change, and develop and implement regional strategies and plans of action where Parties wish to do so.

### **B. Fostering national efforts**

43. To foster national efforts and improve the implementation of Article 6 at the country level, Parties could, inter alia:

- (a) Prepare a national plan of action, which would include a national climate education and outreach plan. Such a plan would be structured according to the six (or fewer, as appropriate) elements of Article 6. Each element would have its primary goal, suggested activities, targets and actors. Suggested activities would target specific needs of various population groups (youth, business persons, mass media, decision makers, etc.), and clear time frames and milestones would be defined. Such national plans of action would need to be developed in the first year of the future work programme;
- (b) Set up a unit or subcommittee on education and outreach, and other elements of Article 6. As a minimum, Parties should designate a focal point for Article 6, who would have appropriate authority to coordinate national efforts, including reporting and exchanging information related to Article 6;
- (c) Provide support to national Article 6 teams to create and enhance their outreach efforts at the national level, including technical and financial support, and access to information and materials;
- (d) Develop and enhance inclusion of climate change information in school curricula at all levels. Efforts should be made to promote sharing of materials at the regional or international level where appropriate;
- (e) Provide support to national climate change teams, including focal points for Article 6, to develop, assemble and disseminate outreach materials to policymakers and other constituencies, such as guidelines, reference books and case studies;
- (f) Conduct surveys, such as 'knowledge–attitude–practice/behaviour' surveys, to establish a baseline of public awareness, which can serve as a basis for further work and support monitoring of the impact of activities.

### **C. Strengthening regional and international efforts**

44. The development of a coordinated implementation approach at the regional level could cover the six elements of Article 6 or focus on a particular element, depending on the priorities and capacities of a region. The implementation of a regional strategy would aim to assist governments and communities within regions to identify local opportunities and develop the capacity to respond to and exploit opportunities, and would require active collaboration of governments with national and regional institutions, as well as with NGOs.

45. To strengthen regional and international efforts, Parties and other relevant organizations and agencies in a position to do so could cooperate and support the following activities:

- (a) Promote and encourage regional programmes and projects that support the implementation of Article 6 and promote sharing of experiences as a means of learning, including through support for the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned, and of information and data;
- (b) Create regional portals for CC:iNet, in collaboration with regional centres of excellence, to further develop and enhance the functionality and user-friendliness of the clearing

house. Such regional portals could be implemented in collaboration with regional partners;

- (c) Develop regional programmes and activities, such as a regional portal under CC:iNet referred to in paragraph 45 (b) above, joint courseware for training and education, and exchange of materials and tools for Article 6, especially for those developed in local languages;
- (d) Promote awareness of regional needs and concerns;
- (e) Strengthen existing regional institutions and networks;
- (f) Conduct regional workshops to promote exchange of experiences and best practices;
- (g) Encourage organizations interested in supporting the implementation of Article 6 to provide a programmatic response to the future work programme and inform the secretariat accordingly;
- (h) Further recognize and define the role of governments, IGOs, NGOs and United Nations agencies in supporting the implementation of the future work programme.

#### **D. Monitoring and evaluation**

46. Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the future work programme is essential to promote effective implementation and to encourage learning from lessons of past activities. To this end, the following activities would be required:

- (a) Evaluation of tools for establishing a baseline and for subsequent regular monitoring;
- (b) Development of performance indicators and setting benchmarks and targets;
- (c) Application of monitoring tools to establish a baseline and conduct regular monitoring to improve effectiveness of implementation, to assess progress, to identify gaps and to learn from past efforts;
- (d) Intermediate review of the new work programme to assess implementation and identify emerging gaps and needs.

#### **E. Enhanced technical and financial support**

47. To ensure that the future work programme is implemented without delay, the COP could:

- (a) Request the GEF to set aside a proportion of the budgets of their projects for education and outreach, and to report explicitly on how this has been spent;
- (b) Invite IGOs and Parties included in Annex II to the Convention in a position to do so to support the prompt preparation and implementation of the national plans of action on Article 6;
- (c) Request the secretariat to mobilize other IGOs in a position to do so to provide technical and/or financial support and to promote partnerships with other organizations, including the private sector, in order to support the implementation of the work programme;
- (d) Encourage organizations in a position to provide technical support to submit their pledges of action through the secretariat.

### **F. Improved reporting**

48. To promote timely exchange of experiences, materials and tools, and best practices, the SBI could encourage Parties and relevant organizations to share information on the implementation of the extended work programme through CC:iNet, in addition to formal reporting channels such as national communications.

### **G. Role of the secretariat**

49. In accordance with Article 8 of the Convention, the secretariat would be requested to facilitate efforts under the enhanced work programme, and in particular:

- (a) To organize the workshops under the future work programme, in collaboration with relevant partners, and subject to availability of funds;
- (b) To further enhance the usefulness and relevance of CC:iNet, in line with the evaluation report of the clearing house (FCCC/SBI/2007/26), and facilitate dissemination of information from CC:iNet and other sources;
- (c) To report to the SBI on progress made in implementing the work programme, at regular intervals, and in particular for the interim progress review in 2010 and the review in 2012;
- (d) To facilitate coordinated input towards objectives and activities of the work programme by mobilizing relevant organizations.

### **H. Time frame and milestones**

50. It is proposed that the extended work programme be mandated for five years, with an intermediate review after three years. Specific milestones at the global and regional levels could include:

- (a) Within one year: develop indicators for monitoring and evaluation; support the preparation and implementation of national plans of action; and identify and/or create regional portals for CC:iNet;
- (b) Before the intermediate review: carry out regional and/or thematic workshops to share lessons and best practices;
- (c) Regularly report and disseminate information on actions pledged by Parties and relevant organizations through the UNFCCC Article 6 web page.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/items/2664.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/items/2664.php)>.