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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

**Twenty-seventh session**

**Bali, 3–11 December 2007**

**Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda**

**National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

**Provision of financial and technical support**

**Views from Parties on their current experiences with the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies in relation to the provision of financial support for the preparation of national communications**

**Submissions from Parties**

1. At its twenty-sixth session, the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 21 September 2007, their views on their current experiences with the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies in relation to the provision of financial support for the preparation of national communications. The SBI requested the secretariat to compile these submissions into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBI at its twenty-seventh session (FCCC/SBI/2007/15, para. 38).
2. The secretariat has received two 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.

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\* 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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PAPER NO. 1: SAUDI ARABIA

**Saudi Arabia submission on  
GEF experience and additional guidance**

Presidency of Meteorology and Environment (PME), has been facing difficulty in dealing with GEF and partner agencies on the proposal of Second National Communication of Saudi Arabia approximately for last two years when the proposal was first submitted to UNDP, Riyadh office.

To date, we have not received GEF approval for our SNC proposal. Biggest issue with GEF is that they, instead of following the various relevant clauses of UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol vis-à-vis mitigation, follow their own agenda and views and impose them on the developing countries.

This GEF behavior has been responsible for delaying the start of the SNC project. Sometimes the communication took few months responding to our request and their comments. GEF is still insisting on including a chapter in our proposal on mitigation of GHG emissions. However, nowhere in the UNFCCC and/or Kyoto protocol, it has been made obligatory on developing countries. Instead, Saudi Arabia would like to include a section on "steps taken to address mitigate".

GEF is still insisting of including a section on mitigation otherwise the funding will be reduced considerably by US \$ one hundred thousand (US \$ 100,000).

This unwarranted attitude of GEF reviewer is unacceptable and unwarranted for.

PAPER NO. 2: URUGUAY

**Additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility**

Views and recommendations from Parties on the funding available to them in the  
climate change focal area

Submission from Uruguay

August 24, 2007

Following the invitation contained in the Decision 3/CP.12, paragraph 5, Uruguay would like to present its views and recommendations on the funding available in the climate change focal area, for compilation by the secretariat for consideration and appropriate action at COP 13 and for transmission through the secretariat to the Council of the Global Environment Facility.

In the framework of Uruguay's Second National Communication, submitted to the COP in 2004, a comprehensive Program of General Measures for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change (PMEGEMA) was developed in coordination with all relevant stakeholders. The implementation of such measures was declared of political priority by the Government. The highest priority in the mitigation field was given to the development of renewable energies. Meanwhile, climate change adaptation measures in the sectors of coastal resources, agriculture and water resources were among the highest priorities identified.

In this context, Uruguay prepared and submitted to the GEF two mitigation medium-sized projects, supporting the national renewable energy program. These projects are related to wind and biomass power generation. Even though both projects were technically approved by the GEF, only the former one is being implemented while the latter is pending in the pipeline due to the RAF's 50% rule. This will negatively affect the success of the whole program.

Regarding adaptation to climate change, a medium sized project in one of the identified priority sectors ("Implementing Pilot Climate Change Adaptation measure in Coastal Areas of Uruguay"), is currently being submitted to the GEF through its Strategic Priority on Adaptation (SPA) Fund after a long period of three years of work, due to the lack of clear guidelines and procedures for this Fund. Project proposals in the other two relevant sectors (agriculture and water resources) are to be submitted once the Special Climate Change Fund is replenished.

Uruguay's Third National Communication is under preparation and shall be submitted to the COP on 2009. Thus, to maintain the momentum of the National Climate Change Program and to assure the continuity of the national communications process, it was necessary to allocate funds from the GEF Resources Allocation Framework (RAF) for the Fourth National Communication, considering that the 5th replenishment of the GEF will not be available at that time. This fact is rather unfair for a country that has been allocated with scarcely 3 million dollars and that has made all the efforts to fulfil with its commitments under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

In this context, Uruguay believes that clear guidelines and expedited procedures for the SPA Fund are necessary to make full use of the available resources. Moreover, the Special Climate Change Fund has to be replenished in the short time with funds enough to support the activities identified by the developing countries. This shall include adaptation to climate change initiatives including climate risk management ones, in light of the climatic extreme events that are affecting the countries of the region.

Uruguay also considers that for the next replenishment of the GEF, additional resources shall be committed to support all enabling activities identified by the developing countries. This shall also be in

time so as to avoid that the countries with limited resources under the RAF have to make use of part of them for these enabling activities. Finally, these resources shall not be included or linked with the RAF.

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