



## **Framework Convention on Climate Change**

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### **Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

**Thirty-fifth session**

**Durban, 28 November to 3 December 2011**

Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda

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

**Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications  
from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

### **Progress report on the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

**Note by the secretariat**

**Addendum**

**Report on the workshop on greenhouse gas inventory hands-on training  
for the Latin America and Caribbean region**

#### *Summary*

The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) held a hands-on training workshop on greenhouse gas inventories for the Latin America and Caribbean region, in collaboration with the National Communications Support Programme and the Technical Support Unit for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, in Santiago, Chile, from 5 to 9 September 2011. The workshop was designed to provide training for the preparation of national greenhouse gas inventories for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention using the CGE training materials, which are under review, and to generate additional feedback to enhance the revision and update of these training materials. This report outlines the proceedings of the workshop and summarizes the presentations and the discussions held. It also includes a summary of the recommendations from the participants on possible improvements of the updated training materials and the organization of other regional workshops in the future.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 5/CP.15, reconstituted the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) for the period 2010–2012 in order to improve the process of, and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties). The COP mandated the CGE to develop a work programme for 2010–2012 at its first meeting.

2. The terms of reference of the CGE stipulate that the CGE, in fulfilling its mandate, shall provide technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for the regular development of, among others, national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, with a view to improving the accuracy, consistency and transparency of information in their national communications.

3. In accordance with its work programme, which was welcomed and taken note of by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its thirty-second session,<sup>1</sup> the CGE, with the assistance of the secretariat and in collaboration with the National Communications Support Programme (NCSP) and the Technical Support Unit for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI-TSU), conducted a hands-on training workshop on GHG inventories for the Latin America and Caribbean region in Santiago, Chile, from 5 to 9 September 2011. The CGE decided at its fourth meeting that the Latin America and Caribbean region would host the first training workshop on national GHG inventories, the Asian region would host the first training workshop on mitigation and the African region would host the first training workshop on vulnerability and adaptation assessment.<sup>2</sup>

4. The workshop was designed to provide training on national GHG inventories for non-Annex I Parties using the CGE training materials, which are under review, and to generate additional feedback in order to enhance the revision and update of these training materials.

5. By its decision 5/CP.15, the COP requested the secretariat to facilitate the work of the CGE by organizing meetings and workshops and compiling reports of its meetings and workshops for consideration by the SBI.

### B. Scope of the note

6. This report on the proceedings of the CGE workshop includes a brief summary of sectoral GHG inventory presentations and recommendations for the implementation of other regional training workshops. Presentations at the workshop were made by resource persons and CGE members, and representatives of the secretariat made background presentations on the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties) and the UNFCCC GHG inventory software for non-Annex I Parties.

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2010/10, paragraph 21.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1, paragraph 20.

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

7. The SBI, having considered this report, may wish:

(a) To note the recommendations from the workshop participants and provide further guidance to the CGE on the implementation of its mandate relating to paragraph 2(a) of its terms of reference, contained in the annex to decision 5/CP.15, on the provision of technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for the regular development of national GHG inventories;

(b) To invite Parties and/or those relevant organizations, including bilateral and multilateral organizations, in a position to do so to continue to provide financial resources to support the work of the CGE in the implementation of its mandate relating to paragraph 2(a) of its terms of reference.

## **II. Proceedings of the workshop**

### **A. Opening of the workshop**

8. The CGE workshop on GHG inventory hands-on training for the Latin America and Caribbean region was held from 5 to 9 September 2011 in Santiago. Mr. Ricardo Irrázabal, Vice-Minister of Environment of Chile, gave an opening statement, emphasizing the importance of addressing climate change and the role that GHG inventories can play at the national level in terms of support to policy development. Mr. José Luis Samaniego, Director at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), stressed the importance of regional cooperation. Ms. Sangchan Limjirakan (Thailand), Chair of the CGE, thanked the Government of Chile for hosting the workshop, welcomed the participants and outlined the objectives of the workshop. The secretariat provided a brief overview of the organization of the workshop.

9. The objectives of the workshop were the following:

(a) To provide training to experts from the Latin America and Caribbean region using updated CGE training materials with a view to improving the preparation of the national GHG inventories, which are reported under the Convention as part of the national communications;

(b) To generate additional feedback to enhance the revision and update of these training materials by the CGE.

10. Thirty experts from 24 non-Annex I Parties (Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Uruguay), six members of the CGE, including representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the IPCC TFI-TSU, and four IPCC TFI-TSU staff members attended the workshop.

11. The workshop was held with the financial support of the NCSP and the IPCC TFI-TSU.

12. As encouraged by the SBI at its thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions, in order to maximize participation in the workshop,<sup>3</sup> the secretariat arranged a facility for remote participation via videoconferencing, allowing up to five GHG experts per sector and per country of the region to take part in the workshop. This remote participation allowed for a total of 175 additional experts to be involved in the training. The CGE, with the assistance of the secretariat, will continue to provide this additional opportunity to non-Annex I Parties in the future for such workshops, subject to the availability of resources.

## **B. Organization of the work**

13. The Chair outlined the organization of the work, and emphasized that this first regional training workshop would enable the CGE to fulfil a key component of its mandate as part of the implementation of its work programme for 2011. The training was conducted by resource persons, including the IPCC TFI-TSU staff, and the CGE members.

14. The agenda of the workshop, prepared in consultation with the CGE, comprised 10 sessions:

(a) The first session was a presentation of background information on the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties and the IPCC *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* as well as recent developments;

(b) The second session was dedicated to general aspects of GHG inventory preparation, including cross-cutting issues;

(c) Sessions three to eight were dedicated to presentations on the IPCC methodologies pertaining to all sectors of a national GHG inventory;

(d) The ninth session was dedicated to a country presentation as well as a presentation on the UNFCCC GHG inventory software for non-Annex I Parties;

(e) The tenth session took the form of a panel discussion to exchange views on technical support needs and on how best to address technical support needs for the preparation of national communications.

15. In closing, an evaluation of the workshop was conducted and recommendations were solicited from the participants on possible improvements of the training materials and on how future regional workshops could be conducted. Participants were appreciative of the training course and thanked the CGE and the secretariat for organizing the workshop, the Government of Chile for hosting the workshop and ECLAC for the excellent facilities. The participants also thanked those Parties and other organizations that funded the workshop.

## **III. Participants feedback**

16. Participants indicated that the workshop afforded them the opportunity to learn more about national GHG inventory development and to share experiences and lessons learned for the preparation of national communications. The topics covered in the different sessions were assessed as useful for national GHG inventory development. The workshop also provided an opportunity to exchange views with representatives from bilateral and multilateral agencies on possible future assistance to be provided to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national GHG inventories.

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<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBI/2010/27, paragraph 29, and FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraph 34.

17. The following recommendations were made regarding the content and organization of the workshop, which will be taken into account in conducting the remaining CGE regional training workshops on national GHG inventories:

(a) The training should focus on the IPCC Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and the IPCC Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry;

(b) There is a need for uniformity in the structure and approach of the sectoral presentations;

(c) The training materials should be circulated to participants before the workshop, in order to allow them to prepare for the thematic sessions;

(d) The hands-on part of the workshop should be extended, for example with training on the use of the methods and the UNFCCC GHG inventory software and general sectoral training dedicated to actual hand-on activities;

(e) The time allocated to the training on the use of the UNFCCC GHG inventory software should be extended. In this regard it was further recommended that participants in future training workshops be encouraged to come to the training with relevant national data sets for use with the software. Participants highlighted the need to have the software available in other United Nations languages in addition to English;

(f) The cross-cutting issues could be introduced on the first day, while the second to fourth days could be dedicated to parallel working groups dealing with each sector of a GHG inventory;

(g) More emphasis should be placed on how to address data gaps, data management and the coordination of teams from different institutions.

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