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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

Views from Parties on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and the need for continuation of the group

Submissions from Parties

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its seventeenth session, invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and the need for continuation of the group.¹
2. The secretariat has received 14 such submissions.² 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.

¹ Decision 14/CP.17, paragraphs 2 and 3.

² Also available at <http://unfccc.int/documentation/submissions_from_parties/items/5902.php>.

* 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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* This submission is supported by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

Views from Parties on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the need for continuation of the group

Angola as just conclude the National Communication in the hand of 2011, witch was submitted in the beginning of 2012. To conclude this work the support provided by the Group was extremely important in terms of providing training and opportunities to exchange with other countries lessons, experiences and best practices.

As develop and LDC country the existing capacity to deal with National Communication still very limited and the training programme of CGE is fundamental element and opportunity to continuing address this country need. To assist on next Communication reports and other challenge around the implementation of the convention.

Very few bodies in the convention are very engaged on training and there very few opportunities out side of the convention who can provid that. The continuation and stragen of CGE would assist countries like Angola to meet the commitments to the convention

Brazilian Submission on the Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Brazil recalls the invitation to Parties contained in Decision 14/CP. 17 on the “Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.31/Add.1, paragraph 2 of document), and welcomes the opportunity to submit its views and proposals on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts - CGE, and on the need for continuation of the group, to be compiled into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBI at its thirty-sixth session.

Brazil recognizes that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of, and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications. Therefore, the CGE must continue its work, which should be enhanced and expanded.

Recognizing that the preparation of national communications is a continuing process, the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties to share experiences on the process of, and preparation of, national communications, and also taking into consideration the new challenges in this regard resulting from decisions under the AWG-LCA taken in Cancun and Durban (e.g. biennial update reports and ICA), Brazil believes that the CGE should have a long-term nature in order to avoid any eventual gaps in the provision of technical advice and support for non-Annex I Parties.

Therefore, the terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) should be reviewed, establishing for it the objectives of:

- 1) improving the process of and preparation of national communications and biennial update reports from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) by providing technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties, including those Parties that have not yet completed their initial national communications; and
- 2) serving as the team of technical experts for international consultation and analysis by undertaking the technical analysis of biennial update reports, in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty, in accordance with paragraphs 56-62 of Decision 2/CP. 17 and its Annex IV.

The CGE shall be mandated:

- (a) To identify and provide technical assistance regarding problems and constraints that have affected the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties;
- (b) To provide technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for the regular development of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation assessment, research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness, technology transfer and capacity-building, with a view to improving the accuracy, consistency and transparency of information in their national communications and biennial update reports;
- (c) To assist non-Annex I Parties, upon their request and as appropriate, in facing difficulties encountered in the use of the guidelines and methodologies for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports;
- (d) To serve as the team of technical experts for international consultation and analysis (para 56-62 of Decision 2/CP. 17 and its Annex IV), undertaking the technical analysis of biennial update reports submitted by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) either as a summary of parts of their national communication in a year in which the national communication is presented or as a stand-alone update report, in consultation with the Party concerned, which may provide additional technical information. The information considered should include the national greenhouse gas inventory report, information on mitigation actions, including a description of such actions, an analysis of their impacts and the associated methodologies and assumptions, the progress made in their implementation and information on domestic measurement, reporting and verification, and support received;
- (e) To prepare a draft summary report, taking into consideration the information referred to in item (d) above, and share it with the Party concerned for review and comment over the following three months;
- (f) To respond to and incorporate comments referred to in item (e) above from the Party concerned and finalize, in consultation with the Party concerned, the summary report, which shall be presented to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI).
- (g) To provide technical advice and support, by organizing and conducting workshops, including hands-on training workshops at the regional or subregional level, on national greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation, and mitigation, as well as training on the use of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties. Special attention shall be given to the training on the use of guidelines for the preparation of the first biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties;
- (h) To provide technical assistance and support for the preparation of proposals regarding the funding needed for the preparation of biennial update reports from non-Annex I Parties;
- (i) To provide non-Annex I Parties, upon request, with information on existing activities and

programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties.

The CGE may seek assistance in performing its functions. In this regard, the CGE may establish committees, panels or working groups to assist it in the performance of its functions. The CGE shall draw on the expertise necessary to perform its functions, including from the UNFCCC roster of experts. In this context, it shall take fully into account the consideration of regional balance, in line with the composition of the CGE.

In the light of the new mandate, CGE shall include in its work plan up to the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, *inter alia*, the following task: to develop and agree on its revised rules of procedure, in view of its new activities, and recommend them to the Conference of the Parties for adoption.

Brazil believes that the Secretariat should enhance its support for the activities of the CGE. Thus, Annex II Parties, and other Parties contained in Annex I in a position to do so, should finance the administrative expenses for the full operation of the CGE by making contributions to the UNFCCC Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities.

This submission shall be considered in conjunction with the Brazilian submission on views and proposals on the composition, modalities and procedures of the team of technical experts referred to in paragraph 1 of Annex IV (Modalities and Guidelines for International Consultation and Analysis) to Decision 2/CP. 17 on the “Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention”.

Paper no. 3: Chile

Submission by Chile

Views of term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group

1. Chile welcomes the opportunity to submit to the secretariat, its views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group, in response to decision 14/CP.17, paragraph 2.
2. Chile also welcomes the decision of the Parties to continue the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention under its current mandate until the end of 2012.
3. Chile fully shares the view stated in decision 14/CP.17, which acknowledges that the CGE has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications.

On the current mandate of the CGE:

4. Notwithstanding the significant support already provided by the CGE to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, Chile believes there is still a significant role for the CGE to play in improving the process of and preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
5. Chile therefore supports the continuation of the current mandate of the CGE as stated in Decision 5/CP.15 of improving the process of and preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, by providing technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties.

On an expanded mandate of the CGE:

6. Chile welcomes paragraphs 39 and 41 of decision 2/CP.17 which, respectively, adopt guidelines for the preparation of biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties (BURs) and decide that non-Annex I Parties, consistent with their capabilities and level of support provided for reporting, should submit their first biennial update report by December 2014.
7. Chile notes that the preparation of biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties will require additional technical advice and support to non-Annex I countries, as well as an enhanced capacity of the teams that will be responsible for the preparation of BURs. The CGE, as an existing group already working to enhance the reporting capacity of developing countries, should also provide technical advice and support for the preparation of BURs.

Chile therefore urges Parties to expand the current mandate of the CGE to include the objective of improving the process of and preparation of biennial update reports.

8. In accordance with this extended mandate, Chile proposes that the CGE assume the following additional responsibilities related to the preparation of BURs:
 - a. Provide technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of their biennial update reports, taking into consideration the guidelines adopted in paragraph 39 of decision 2/CP.17
 - b. Provide recommendations, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in the future review and revision of the guidelines for biennial update reports, to take place as specified in decision 2/CP.17, Annex III, paragraph 21.
 - c. Provide technical support to non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of BURs, including the preparation of training materials that would aid NAI countries in the preparation of BURs. These materials would address any additional reporting requirements not covered by training materials for the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties.
 - d. Participate in the design of and approach to the training of staff from non-Annex I Parties responsible for the preparation of biennial update reports.

On the need for the continuation of the group:

9. Considering the important work that the CGE has done and should continue to do to enhance the capacity of non-Annex I countries to prepare their national communications, and also taking into account the 2014 submission date for biennial update reports and the guidelines for these reports adopted in decision 2/CP.17, Chile strongly believes it is necessary to continue the work of the CGE beyond 2012.

Paper no. 4: Denmark and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States

SUBMISSION BY DENMARK AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

This submission is supported by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.

Copenhagen, 5 March 2012

Submission on: The term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the need for continuation of the group

I. Continuation of the group

The EU acknowledges the CGE's important contribution to the enhancement of the capacity of non-Annex I Parties in preparing their national communications.

The EU believes that the CGE should continue to provide technical advice and support to developing countries for the preparation of their national communications and continue to assess how to improve such support and act as a forum for the exchange of best practices and experiences.

Following the Durban agreement, the EU believes that the CGE should also provide technical advice and support to developing countries to facilitate the preparation of their biennial update reports.

II. Term

In line with the decisions taken in Durban, it would be appropriate that the next term of the CGE covers the period 2013-2015. This would ensure that developing countries receive adequate technical assistance for the timely submission of their biennial update reports by December 2014.

The term and mandate of the CGE should then be reviewed again in 2015.

III. Other issues relevant to the CGE's mandate

The membership of the CGE as determined in decision 3/CP.8, annex, paragraphs 3–8 should be reviewed with a view of increasing the number of Annex I Parties represented in the group by four. This will ensure the better dissemination of best practices and experiences between non-Annex I and Annex I Parties, will contribute to a closer cooperation among Parties and the successful implementation of the new reporting commitments. In this respect the EU would also wish to underline the importance of the continued cooperation of the CGE with international organizations such as the UNEP, the UNDP, the IPCC and the GEF and the need for the participation of representatives from these organizations in the CGE.

The CGE meetings and workshops should continue to be organized back to back to the UNFCCC sessions as appropriate and the UNFCCC secretariat should continue to facilitate the CGE's work in relation to the organization of meetings, workshops, provision of technical assistance and dissemination of reports, and other materials developed by the CGE.

IV. Mandate/terms of reference

The EU believes that the following issues should be covered by the mandate and terms of reference of the CGE in the period 2013-2015:

- 1) The CGE should continue to provide technical assistance and support to non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of their national communications but should also provide such technical assistance and support for the preparation of their biennial update reports as well as continue to assess how to improve such support. Specifically, the CGE's work should focus primarily on the provision of technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for:
 - a) the establishment and maintenance of national technical teams and the elaboration of appropriate institutional arrangements, for the preparation of national communications and biennial reports, including GHG inventories,
 - b) the development of consistent, transparent, comparable, accurate, complete and timely national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories,
 - c) mitigation assessment including reporting on methodologies and assumptions used,
 - d) the reporting on mitigation actions and their effects including quantitative estimates of the impact in terms of GHG reductions,
 - e) development of GHG emission projections,
 - f) reporting of constraints, gaps and needs with regards to financial, technology and capacity-building support,
 - g) reporting of support received and its use,
 - h) domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements,
 - i) vulnerability and adaptation assessment,
 - j) research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness.

- 2) The CGE should also continue to provide, as appropriate, information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties.
- 3) The CGE should continue to cooperate closely with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and should also engage, upon request, with the Adaptation Committee, Technology Centre and Network, Technology Executive Committee, and the Durban Forum for In Depth Discussion on Capacity Building in order to facilitate these bodies in promoting the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation and technology in a coherent manner under the Convention.
- 4) Technical support should continue to be provided through workshops, hands-on training and training of trainers, building on experiences of Parties and/or lessons learned.
- 5) The CGE could provide recommendations, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
- 6) In order to ensure the quality of the work and exchange of experience within the CGE, the CGE shall be composed of experts drawn from the roster of experts with expertise in at least one of the chapters of the biennial reports or national communications (e.g. greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability assessment and adaptation, mitigation) noting the value of experience in the review process of national communications, greenhouse gas inventories or biennial reports. The SBI shall be notified of the appointments and the UNFCCC secretariat shall publish the list of CGE members with their respective area of expertise and experience from the review of national communications, greenhouse gas inventories or biennial reports.

After the implementation of the process of the international consultation and analysis, the CGE could then systematically assess the outcomes of the ICA, i.e. the summary reports prepared by the team of technical experts conducting the international analysis and the record of the facilitative sharing of views in order to improve the technical assistance and support of the CGE to non-Annex I Parties and integrate any needs arising from this assessment in its work programme. For this purpose, the CGE and lead experts conducting technical analysis of biennial update reports could periodically meet to discuss how the technical assistance and support of the CGE to non-Annex I Parties could be improved.

SUBMISSION ON THE MANDATE OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS (CGE)

BY THE GAMBIA

ON BEHALF ON THE GROUP OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Parties are invited to *submit to the secretariat, by 5 March 2012, their views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group.*

Background on the CGE

Article 12, paragraph 7 of the Convention relates to the arrangement of provision of technical and financial support to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in preparing their national communications. In accordance with the provisions of this Article, and through its Decision 8/CP.5, the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its fifth session, established the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention with the objective of improving the process of preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties. The CGE is composed of experts drawn from the roster of experts with expertise in greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability assessment and adaptation, abatement issues and preparation of national communications. It has a membership of five experts from Africa, five experts from Asia, five experts from Latin America and the Caribbean and six experts from Annex I Parties.

The Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 3/CP.8, decided to continue the mandate of CGE with the objective of improving the process of preparation of the second and subsequent national communications by providing technical advice and support to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) and, where relevant, of initial national communications from Parties which have not yet submitted them. In doing so the CGE was mandated to undertake several activities for five years which they have successfully completed.

At its fifteenth session, the COP, by its decision 5/CP.15, reconstituted the CGE for three years from 2010 to 2012, with the mandate to provide technical assistance through workshops, hands on training and training of trainers on greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation (V and A) assessments and mitigation assessments in the context of the preparation of national

communications; and to prepare technical reports and submit to the SBI. The membership increased to 24 from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Annex I Parties and one member each from three international organizations.

The Cancun Agreements and the Durban Platform

In Cancun (COP 16) Parties agreed on many issues related to adaptation. Decision 1/ CP.16 established a process to enable the LDC Group of Parties to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), building upon their experience in preparing and implementing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA). NAPs will serve as a means of identifying medium and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs.

The COP decision at its 17th Session recognized the CGE's role to include the possible facilitation of technical advice and support for the preparation and submission of the first biennial update report for non-Annex I Parties, the updates of GHG inventories, the information on mitigation actions, and the needs and support received. The CGE is also mentioned as being one of the groups engaging with the Adaptation Committee, attending meetings of the Adaptation Committee as appropriate. As a capacity building body, the CGE is listed as an important body to continue doing so in the COP17 LCA decision on capacity building. Therefore, the continued relevance of the CGE remains clear in the COP17 decisions.

As the CGE reviews its mandate, gender considerations should be one of the issues it decides to include as it contributes to work under enhanced action on mitigation, enhanced action on adaptation and capacity building under the LCA discussions and related COP decisions all of which address socio-economic issues, including gender. Under enhanced action on mitigation the CGE can contribute to information that will input into the new registry. In para 46(h) of the COP17 decision related to LCA this registry can include *other co-benefits of sustainable development*. One of the co-benefits of sustainable development is, indeed, gender equality. The CGE can be one of the bodies to help identify these co-benefits and assist Parties in collecting information on gender equality issues to input into the registry. Similarly, the Adaptation Committee in para 93(b) of the COP17 LCA decision is tasked with *strengthening, consolidating and enhancing the sharing of relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices*. The CGE can work with the Adaptation Committee to assist Parties in this information collection, ensuring that gender-related and sex-disaggregated data, proven integral to adaptation measures, are included as well. Finally, the preamble of the COP17 LCA decision on capacity building not only acknowledges that it is cross-cutting and integral in mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer and access to financial resources but reaffirms that capacity building activities take into account gender aspects. This decision also identifies the CGE as a relevant capacity building body under the Convention, which implies that the activities of the CGE should take into account gender aspects.

Submission of the Group of Least Developed Countries:

The UNFCCC process recognizes that the preparation of national communications is a continuous process that involves and provides a forum for the sharing of national, sub-regional and regional experiences to improve the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties. Great satisfaction has been registered on the excellent role that the CGE has played and continue to play on improving the process of the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties.

As the LDC Parties prepare for the preparation and implementation of NAPs in the very near future, and expect the LDC Expert Group (LEG) to develop guidelines to facilitate the NAP process, the CGE needs to work with the LEG in order to facilitate the adoption and implementation of the NAP Guidelines developed by the LEG to non-LDC developing countries.

The LDC Group, therefore, submits that the CGE mandate should be extended as it has important future roles to play in the:

1. Improvement of the quality of Non-Annex I National Communications;
2. Facilitation of the adoption and implementation of the LEG Guidelines on NAPs in non-LDC developing countries; and

Promotion of gender considerations in the work under enhanced action on mitigation, enhanced action on adaptation and capacity building under the LCA decisions all of which address socio-economic issues, including gender.

**WORK OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON NATIONAL
COMMUNICATIONS
FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION**

SUBMISSION FROM GHANA

Under Article 4, paragraph 1 and Article 12, paragraph 1 of the UNFCCC, developing countries are required to prepare their national communications taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and their specific national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances.

Under normal circumstances, after submitting the initial national communication, subsequent national communications should be submitted after every four years. However, due to various and to some extent several challenges and constraints at the different stages in the process and preparation of the national communications, developing countries are not able to meet this four-year cycle. Ghana's initial national communication was submitted in 2000 and the second national communication was submitted in 2011.

Challenges and constraints that developing countries encounter include the following:

- Data gaps, incompatible formats and poor quality data in the various sectors;
- Capacities of relevant national institutions in using guidelines, methodologies, tools and software;

- Assessments for mitigation, vulnerabilities, impacts and adaptation;
- Monitoring systems for sustainably collecting processing and archiving data in the required format and quality.

COP 15 mandated the re-constituted Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) to provide technical advice, support and enhance the capacity of Non-Annex 1 (NA1) parties to prepare their national communications. Since 2011, the CGE has been providing technical support and advice to NA1 country parties with training and capacity building activities in relation to the preparation of their national communications. Within the work programme of the CGE, training materials are being updated to facilitate their use by parties, including hands-on training on the different aspects of the national communications. So far the training sessions organized by the CGE have allowed countries to have practical experience with some software; exchange information and best practices across the different regions. However, there are still some NA1 parties who have not submitted their initial national communications and will still need the technical advice and support of the CGE to enable them prepare and submit them to the UNFCCC.

Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 59 (c), also states that developing countries, consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting should submit biennial update reports containing updates of national greenhouse gas inventories, including national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received. At COP 17, guidelines were adopted for the biennial reports, as well as modalities for work on the NAMAs.

This entails additional training and capacity building for NA1 parties to enable them meet these requirements.

Countries are also identifying new sectors that have to be included in their subsequent national communications which may need some additional materials and tools.

With the experience gained by the CGE in its work, there is the need to review and revise its terms of reference and make it a permanent body of the Convention to ensure the continuous provision of the needed support and technical advice to NA 1 parties.

Paper no. 7: Japan

Submission by the Government of Japan on the views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group

The Government of Japan welcomes the opportunity to submit the following views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the need for continuation of the group in accordance with paragraph 2 of the decision at the COP17 “Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”.

(1) Basic recognition

- Japan recognizes that the CGE has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of, and preparation of, national communications (NCs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in accordance with its mandate outlined in the Decision 5/CP.15.
- Japan believes that the CGE should continue its work because the preparation of NCs and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) of non-Annex I Parties with more enriched contents and with improved quality is required based on the Cancun Agreements and the decisions of COP17, and the role of the CGE which provides technical support to non-Annex I Parties will become more important as well.
- However, the CGE could not provide flexible contribution in line with the change of situation around the NCs of the non-Annex I Parties because its current mandate does not refer to key decisions made by the COP in recent years including the Cancun Agreements. Based on this reflection, Japan thinks that the new mandate of the CGE should accommodate certain flexibility so that the CGE can play an appropriate role in accordance with the discussion at the COP and its subsidiary bodies.
- Japan has contributed to the work of the CGE by providing financial support and supporting participation of a Japanese expert in the CGE. Japan would like to express its willingness to continue its support to activities of the CGE if it is agreed that the work of the CGE continues after 2012.

(2) The mandate of the CGE

Japan’s views on new mandate of the CGE based on the current mandate (Paragraph 2(a)- (f) of the Annex of Decision 5/CP.15) are as follows;

◆ **2(a), 2(c) and 2(f) (providing technical assistance and advice to the non-Annex I Parties)**

- These tasks have been major part of the work of the CGE so far, and should continue to be given priority in the new mandate as main tasks of the CGE with some modifications as proposed below.
- BURs should be added to the scope of mandate although the current mandate focuses on only NCs.
- The new mandate should refer to “taking the result of the International Consultation and Analysis (ICA) into consideration” as it is useful and helpful to consider enough the information obtained from the ICA with a view to achieving these tasks.

◆ **2(b) (Providing recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NCs)**

- This mandate has also been one of main activities of the CGE and the outcome was the recommendations from the CGE submitted to the SBI34 in June, 2011 (FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1). Japan believes that the new mandate of the CGE should include: i) to further consider the revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NCs from non-Annex I Parties, taking into consideration recommendations made by the CGE as well as relevant decisions made by the COP recently, and ii) to

submit recommendations to the SBI.

- In addition, the CGE should be given the task to provide recommendations to the SBI about the policies and elements of the revision of the “UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included Annex I to the Convention” (Annex III of the decision at COP17 “Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention”) , taking into consideration the possibility of the revision of the guidelines based on the submission of the first BURs and the first round of the ICA.

◆ **2(d) and 2(e) (Providing technical support, advice and information, upon request by the non-AI Parties)**

- These mandates state that the CGE provides advice and support to the non-Annex I Parties upon their request. However, they have never been carried out actually due to no requests have been made by the non-Annex I Parties. These tasks could be deleted from, or given lower priority in the new mandate of the CGE.

◆ **New elements**

- The new mandate should refer that the CGE gives advice and recommendations to the SBI in accordance with the request of the SBI so that the CGE can flexibly respond to the change of needs in a timely manner.

(3) The term of extension of the CGE

- The next term of the CGE should be five years from 2013 to 2017, taking into account that the ICA process will progress after the submission of the first BURs in December 2014 and that the modalities of the ICA will be revised by 2017.
- It is appropriate to review the work of the CGE in the middle of its term (e.g. at COP20 in 2014 or COP21 in 2015) and to consider the revision of the mandate if necessary.

MALAYSIA'S SUBMISSION TO THE UNFCCC

Work of the consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (SBI)

Views from Parties on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group. (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.31/Add.1, paragraph 2)

Malaysia welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the term and mandate of the consultative Group of Experts (CGE) on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, and the need for continuation of the group, to be compiled into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBI at its thirty-sixth session.

In this regard, Malaysia notes with satisfaction that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of, and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications.

Under its mandate, the CGE shall:

- (a) Identify and provide technical assistance regarding problems and constraints that have affected the preparation of national communications;
- (b) Provide technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties for the regular development of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation assessment, research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness, technology transfer and capacity-building, with a view to improving the accuracy, consistency and transparency of information in their national communications;

- (c) Identify and assess, as appropriate, the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the use of the guidelines and methodologies for the preparation of national communications;
- (d) Provide technical advice and support, by organizing and conducting workshops, including hands-on training workshops at the regional or subregional level, on national greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation, and mitigation, as well as training on the use of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties;
- (e) Provide non-Annex I Parties, upon request, with information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties.

In addition, Malaysia believes that the CGE may play an additional and closely related role in assisting non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their Biennial Update Reports (BUR) that is to be submitted every two years.

Finally the CGE, in light of its specific expertise in enhancing transparency through improved reporting of emissions in national communications, is well suited to serve as the team of technical experts referred to in paragraph 1 of Annex IV (Modalities and Guidelines for International Consultation and Analysis) to Decision_/CP. 17 on the “Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention.

Paper no. 10: Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States

Work of the consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (SBI)

Views from Parties on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the need for continuation of the group

Submission by the Republic of Nauru on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States

13 March 2012

1. Introduction

The Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) welcomes the opportunity to present its views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) and the need for continuation of this group.

At COP 15, the Parties reconstituted the CGE for a period of three years only, from 2010 to 2012. However, since COP 15, the Parties have taken a number of decisions that will increase the burden of national communication reporting, in terms of frequency and technical content. Consequently, these decisions create additional technical, institutional and capacity building challenges for many non-Annex I Parties.

2. Enhanced reporting will be facilitated by enhanced support from the CGE and NCSP

By decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 60, the Conference of the Parties agreed to "enhance reporting in national communications, including inventories, from Parties not included in Annex I, on mitigation actions and their effects, and support received, with additional flexibility to be given to the least developed country Parties and small island developing States". The Parties agreed that national communications would be submitted every 4 years, with biennial update reports submitted as part of the national communication process every two years.

Subsequently, at COP 17, the Parties agreed that the first biennial update reports would be due in December 2014 and adopted detailed guidelines for biennial update reports (contained in Annex III to decision /CP.17)¹. In so doing, the Parties expressly recognized the difficulties faced by non-Annex I Parties in reporting under the Convention and the need to take into account national capabilities and circumstances, and build capacity. The Parties also recognized that the CGE could also play an important role in facilitating technical advice and support for the preparation and submission of the first biennial update report.

AOSIS is of the view that more frequent national communications, together with biennial update reporting, require additional financial and technical support. Access to ongoing support from the CGE for the preparation of national communications will assist non-Annex I Parties in improving the transparency, consistency and comparability of the information

¹ Decision /CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention.

contained in these national communications, and will support efforts by non-Annex I Parties to report against more detailed UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines.

This ongoing support will be particularly helpful in addressing new or enhanced elements of the reporting process, including reporting on mitigation actions (establishment of quantitative goals, progress indicators, choice of methodologies, estimated outcomes, information on international market mechanisms, description of domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements) and reporting on finance, technology and capacity building needs, constraints and gaps, and on support received. It will also help countries in developing a consistent time series of GHG inventory data.

A reconstituted CGE should be buttressed by extension of the National Communication Support Programme (NCSP).

3. Term of the CGE

As per decision 5/CP.15, the current mandate of the CGE comes to an end in 2012. AOSIS supports the continuation of the CGE through to at least 2016, when subsequent national communications from non-Annex I Parties are to be submitted. This period of time will also enable the CGE to provide technical support to the biennial update reporting process, as agreed at COP 17.

4. Mandate of the CGE

In light of the foregoing, AOSIS is of the view that the following elements should be part of the extended mandate of the CGE:

4.1 Support for national communication reporting

AOSIS considers the work of both the CGE and the National Communication Support Programme (NCSP) to be essential sources of support to developing countries in preparing their national communications, and particularly in reporting on:

1. national GHG inventories;
2. vulnerability and adaptation assessments;
3. mitigation; and
4. cross-cutting issues (research and systematic observation, technology transfer, capacity-building, education, training and public awareness, information and networking and financial and technical support).

AOSIS believes the CGE should continue to be available to provide support to non-Annex I Parties in the implementation of their reporting obligations under the Convention in each of the above areas.

AOSIS also calls for the extension of the NCSP, or initiation of a similar programme, to provide technical support and collaborate with the CGE in the successful execution of the expanded mandate.

4.2 Consistency, transparency, completeness, accuracy and timeliness of reported information

With respect to both national communication reporting and biennial update reports, the CGE has an important role to play in working with Parties to facilitate the presentation of information in a consistent, transparent, complete, accurate and timely manner, and in a manner that reflects national circumstances, in line with the objectives of the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in

Annex I to the Convention (decision 17/CP.8, Annex), and the newly-adopted UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (decision _/CP.17, Annex III).

The CGE's continuing technical support and capacity building work in these areas will facilitate the review of information in national communications, including the review of biennial update reports agreed at COP 16 and COP 17. The UNFCCC will benefit from information that is presented in a consistent, transparent, complete, accurate and timely manner from non-Annex I Parties.

AOSIS is of the view that a compilation and synthesis of Second National Communications, prepared by the secretariat, will assist the CGE in identifying areas in which further technical and capacity building support is needed.

4.3 Develop methodologies and guidelines for the formulation and presentation of NAMAs

AOSIS has previously highlighted the need for assistance in the formulation and presentation of NAMAs and this is an area in which the CGE may also be able to provide assistance to developing country Parties. Biennial update reporting guidelines seek information on mitigation actions, including information on methodologies, estimated emission reductions, information on international market mechanisms and information on the description of domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements. These are all areas in which the CGE could facilitate assistance to Parties in reporting.

4.4 Extract lessons learnt and best practices in adaptation from developing country national communications

Although international consultation and analysis of individual biennial update reports will take place under the SBI, it may be valuable to ensure that elements of national communications can be reviewed through the CGE. For example, where national communications or biennial update reports provide information on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity building needs, the CGE may be of use in compiling and synthesizing this information and making recommendations on how best to address these needs. Adaptation in particular is a priority issue for SIDS and LDCs. The CGE may have a role to play in compiling and synthesizing information presented in national communications and in biennial reporting updates on financial, technical and capacity building needs in the area of adaptation. There is a need to ensure that adaptation needs reported through the national communication process are adequately acknowledged and reflected within the UNFCCC process, and that these needs are effectively matched with support.

4.5 Facilitation of assistance to individual Parties from the roster of experts

The CGE may have a role to play in assisting Parties in identifying and addressing gaps in reporting, and in facilitating access to technical, financial and capacity building assistance to close these reporting gaps. A trial period could begin in 2013 where experts drawn from the Roster of Experts are invited, at the request of non-Annex I Parties, and facilitated by the CGE, to provide inventory preparers in non-Annex I countries with advice and assistance to help fill reporting gaps, improve the quality of inventories, identify information sources to help with reporting, and facilitate improvements in national communications. This facility would strengthen the reporting of non-Annex I countries.

4.6 Advice and facilitation of financial and technical assistance to individual Parties

The CGE should be able, at the request of a Party, to provide advice and facilitate assistance to that Party regarding its reported mitigation actions, including advice and facilitation of financial and technical assistance, including with respect to technology transfer and capacity building. Non-Annex I Parties should be able to request assistance directly from the CGE in these areas (facilitation of financial and technical assistance), as all Parties are currently able to do through the facilitative branch of the Kyoto Protocol's Compliance Committee.

4.7 Play a supporting role in technical review of national communications or elements of national communications for interested Non-Annex I Parties

Without duplicating the work of the SBI in the area of international consultation and analysis (ICA), beginning in 2013, the CGE could assist non-Annex I Parties in improving their national communications by facilitating technical reviews of national communications or elements of national communications by experts drawn from the Roster of Experts for those Non-Annex I Parties that are interested in improving the quality of their emissions inventories, or improving elements of their inventories, or that seek assistance in the presentation of information on NAMAs. This opportunity may be helpful for Parties wishing to improve their emissions inventories in order to access market mechanisms in the post-2012 period.

4.8 Review of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines

The CGE should also be tasked to continue its work in reviewing the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, as recommended in the Annex to the 2011 CGE progress report, FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1.

5. Draft COP Decision

The SBI should be requested to prepare a draft COP decision which outlines the new term and mandate of a reconstituted CGE and initiates a work programme for the CGE.

The CGE should continue to be mandated to provide support to developing countries in all elements of the preparation of their national communications, including initial biennial update reports. This support should include advice and facilitation of assistance to Parties, on request, in the development and communication of their NAMAs.

The CGE should be mandated to work with and through the UNFCCC roster of experts to respond to requests from individual non-Annex I Parties for assistance in identifying and addressing gaps in reporting, and facilitate financial, technical and capacity building advice and assistance.

The CGE work programme should include a trial period for voluntary technical reviews of non-Annex I National Communications, elements of national communications or NAMAs, at the request of non-Annex I Parties, with technical reviewers drawn from the UNFCCC roster of experts. It should also set out a process for reviewing the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, implementing the recommendations outlined in the Annex of the CGE progress report to the SBI (FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1).

New Zealand submission to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation:

Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

March 2012

1. In making this submission New Zealand is responding to the invitation to Parties to provide views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the need for continuation of the group (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.31/Add.1, paragraph 2 refers).
2. In Decision [-/CP.17] Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, Parties to the UNFCCC acknowledge that the CGE has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of, and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications. Further, the above decision emphasises the importance of providing relevant technical advice and support for the process of the preparation of national communications, as well as the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties to share experiences of this process.
3. In Decision [-/CP.17] Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention Parties adopted guidelines for the preparation of biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties as well as recognising that the CGE could play an important role in facilitating technical advice and support for the preparation and submission of the first biennial update reports. Noting the discretion granted to least developed country Parties and small island developing states, the first biennial update reports are to be submitted by December 2014.
4. Given the step-up in reporting that biennial update reports will require, in New Zealand's view we would like to see the mandate of the CGE extended beyond the end of 2012 with the express purpose of providing relevant technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties for the process of the preparation of their first biennial update reports. Such support could include (for use on a voluntary basis) the development of tabular formats to streamline reporting.
5. Impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change will remain a priority for many developing countries, in particular least developed country Parties and small island developing states. Thus, it is likely the CGE will also need to continue to provide some technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties to provide information on their vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change, and on adaptation measures being taken. New Zealand also recognises the important role the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) plays with regards to impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change for Least Developed Countries.
6. With the assistance of the secretariat the CGE could examine the synergies between its work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change with:

- the work being undertaken by the Adaptation Committee
- the Nairobi work programme under the SBSTA
- the adoption by COP17 of the initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans (with monitoring and follow-up by the SBI)
- the work of the LEG

7. The aim should be to maximise the application of relevant information and to minimise duplication of effort and to examine the level of involvement the CGE needs to continue to have in this area. As an example, New Zealand supports the secretariat incorporating advice provided by the CGE into the work that the secretariat has already been mandated to do, especially around the impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in developing countries. This would continue to help disseminate the work of the CGE more widely.

8. New Zealand looks forward to engaging on these issues with other Parties.

SUBMISSION BY SAUDI ARABIA

March 5, 2012

Views on Views from Parties on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group.

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group.

Saudi Arabia supports the continuation of the work of the Consultative Group of Experts (GCE), and thereby, supports the renewal of the Group's mandate and terms. We believe that the GCE continues to play a significant role in providing technical advice and support to developing countries' preparations of national communications.

Finally, as we emphasize the importance of the national communications in tackling climate change, we believe that the capacity of the developing countries should not be undermined by limiting the new GCE mandate to 3 years only.

Paper no. 12: Swaziland on behalf of the African States

SUBMISSION BY THE CHAIR OF THE AFRICAN GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS:

WORK OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS (CGE) ON NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION:

Submission by the Chair of Africa Group (Swaziland)

Views on the term and mandate of the CGE and the need for continuity of the group beyond 2012.

1. 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 three years from 2010 to 2012 to provide technical advice and support to enhance the capacity of Non-Annex I to prepare their national communication.
2. The decision to allow the CGE to continue with its work under its current mandate up to the end of 2012 is most welcomed by the African Group and allows the CGE to complete its work program as presented to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its thirty-second session.
3. The AGN supports Decision 14/CP.17, in recognizing the substantive contributions made by the CGE towards improving the process of and preparation of, national communication from non- Annex I Parties by providing the necessary technical advice and support including enhancing the capacity of such Parties in preparing the national communication.

THE CURRENT MANDATE OF THE CGE

1. The AGN takes note that notwithstanding challenges associated with enabling activities, non Annex I Parties must submit subsequent national communication after four years which is not so mainly due to the different levels of challenges and constraints encountered at the different stages in the process and preparation of their national communications.
2. The 2010 to 2012 work programme of the CGE provides for update of training materials and hands-on training on the different aspects of the national communications. The African Group therefore fully supports the continuation of the work program of the CGE in an effort to improve the process of and preparation of national communication form non Annex I Parties.

TERM AND MANDATE OF THE CGE

1. The role of the CGE and its experience in providing technical advice and support, including capacity building towards improving the process of and preparation of national communication from non Annex I Parties, definitely calls for a longer term of the CGE and its mandate periodically reviewed to take into account the dynamics in the decision adopted by Parties in the reporting of non Annex I Parties as well as any other reporting guidelines for non Annex I Parties.
2. The AGN strongly believes that CGE should take the lead in providing technical advice and support including capacity building for any additional guidelines for reporting in the biennial update reports (BURs). International consultancy Analysis (ICA), developments of National Appropriate Mitigation Action, National Adaptation Plans and any other guideline that may be agreed under the new ADP group
3. The African Group is willing to engage it's negotiation partners to ensure that the work of the CGE goes beyond 2012 and the CGE term is considered on a sustainable basis and of course its mandate is periodically

reviewed to take into account emerging reporting needs for non Annex I Parties by providing technical advice and support, including capacity building, especially to those Parties that are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change yet have the least adaptive capacity.

4. For the CGE to implement its work program, it needs assurance that committed financial resources are made available and in a timely.

Switzerland

Work of the consultative Group of Experts on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE)

1. Situation

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 a period of three years from 2010 to 2012. The annex to that decision contains the mandate of the CGE, which is structured in six tasks. Five tasks correspond to the structure of the National Communications, following the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (annex to decision 17/CP.8). The sixth task requests the provision of recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of these guidelines. These recommendations have to be submitted to the SBI for its consideration (FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Add.1).

The COP 17 should have reviewed the term, the mandate and the need for the continuation of the group. The COP 17 decided to let the CGE pursue its work under its current mandate until the end of 2012 and invited Parties to submit their views on the term and mandate of the CGE for the period after 2012 and on the need for the continuation of the group.

Switzerland welcomes this invitation to submit its views and look forward to discussing them with all Parties next May during the 36th session of the SBI.

2. Need for the continuation of the CGE

The need for the continuation of the CGE seems necessary, as both the Cancún Agreements and the Durban decisions have triggered a higher level of ambition in the reporting obligations of non-Annex I Parties in terms of frequency, scope and depth.

As recognized by the Durban decision on the outcome of the work of the AWG-LCA, the CGE could indeed play a very important role in supporting non-Annex I Parties in fulfilling their new reporting tasks, particularly their initial biennial update report. Therefore, the future CGE's term and mandate should focus on providing guidance and technical assistance with regard to biennial update reporting and, consistently with the Cancún and Durban decisions and the task already undertaken by the CGE, advise on additional elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties. Clear political guidance should be given to the CGE to allow the group to perform the expert work expected from it in support of non-Annex I Parties when coping with enhanced report obligations. Additional views on the term and mandate of the CGE is provided hereunder in section 3.

Since a number of years the necessary revision of the guidelines has been put in abeyance due to a lack of consensus among Parties. Consequently, the training materials on GHG inventories as well as the reporting software, currently prepared by the CGE, have to accommodate the three different reporting guidelines (IPCC 1996 revised guidelines, 2000/2003 GPG guidance and IPCC 2006 guidelines). The IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse

gas Inventories' state of the art information sources such as the emission factor database are, though, only customized to the most recent guidelines. Hence, the use of different guidelines leads to friction losses in the transfer of information contained in national communications and inventory reports.

Switzerland welcomes any steps towards harmonization of the international reporting system to enhance the consistency of the information provided. The new reporting requirements for non-Annex I Parties based on the Cancún and Durban decisions would achieve a higher level of environmental integrity if the guidelines contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8 could be updated to integrate established good practices. The 2011 guidelines for the preparation of biennial update reports would clearly benefit from such a step.

Under these circumstances, Switzerland is of the view that continuing the CGE makes only sense if coupled with a mandate to the SBI to revise the guidelines contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8 (for the preparation of National Communications).

There should be consistency between the National Communication and the biennial update report, but not backward-looking. The Durban Platform for Enhanced Action will produce new obligations for all the Parties together and this will also be true for reporting. In the future climate regime under the Convention, after 2020, Switzerland envisages reporting obligations that will be common for all Parties, without leaving aside the necessary flexibility (tiers) to accommodate the national circumstances of each Party.

Revised guidelines for the preparation of both National Communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties go into the right direction towards this future set of reporting obligations. On this basis, the CGE could provide adequate capacity building for an optimal use of these new guidelines.

Furthermore, the decision about the continuation of the work of the CGE should be made in accordance with the one on the composition, modalities and procedures regarding the team of technical experts that will perform the analysis phase of the ICA (see the Swiss submission on this matter). Depending on the mandate of the team of technical experts, the CGE could either be terminated or see its own term and mandate radically modified, so as to provide complementary support while avoiding redundancy.

3. Term and Mandate of the CGE

The term and mandate of the CGE for any activity after 2012 should be decided in parallel with the launching of the revision process of the guidelines for the preparation of National Communications. The CGE has already made recommendations for elements of such a revision and could accompany it.

The term and mandate of the CGE, once its continuation has been decided, should complement and be coherent with the decision on the composition, modalities and procedures regarding the teams of technical experts due to perform the analysis phase of the ICA process.

The future CGE could support, through training and technical assistance, non-Annex I Parties when preparing their reports (National Communications and biennial update reports) while letting the team of technical experts analyze, once the biennial update reports have been submitted, the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the use of the guidelines and methodologies.

The CGE could also play a role in examining the last National Communications forming the

basis from which the biennial report will provide updated information. As the team of technical experts will analyze the content of the biennial update reports during the analysis phase of the ICA process, the CGE could, in addition, pay more attention to the parts of the National Communications not subject to biennial update reporting, such as the chapters on vulnerability and adaptation assessment, research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness.

Finally, the mandate given to the CGE should contain a work programme, at least for the first year. The work programme should be decided during the SBI negotiations on the mandate of the CGE so as to allow the group to begin with its technical work right after the mandate is decided. Letting the CGE develop its own work programme, as contained in the actual terms of reference (annex to decision 5/CP.15), has proven to be counter-productive for the efficiency of the group, which is technical in nature.

View of Republic of Uzbekistan on the term and mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts and the need for continuation of the group

Republic of Uzbekistan acknowledges the importance of activities of CGE on the national communications of Non-Annex I Parties.

CGE made significant contribution to the improvement of the process of Preparation of national communications of Non-Annex I Parties.

According to its terms and mandates CGE provides for the technical consulting support and assistance in preparation of national communications including also the regular compilation of national cadastres of green-house gases, assessment of prevention of climate change, vulnerability and adaptation, conduction of studies and systematic observations, education, training of personnel and public awareness, technology transfer and strengthening of capacity for the increase of accuracy, compatibility and transparency of information presented in their national communications; works over the improvement of “Guiding principles for preparation of national communications of Non-Annex I Parties” elaborating the recommendations with regards of difficulties the Parties are encountered during preparation of their national communications; facilitates exchange of experience and capacity building in the context of preparation of national communications via organization and conduction of training activities, practical workshops, publication of tutorial materials on the subjects of cadastres of green-house gases, prevention of climate change, assessment of vulnerability and adaptation studies systematic observations, education, training of personnel and public awareness, technology transfer and strengthening of capacity, financial and technical suport. From all this it follows that continuation of CGE activities is required for Non-Annex I Parties which need the technical consulting and support, capacity building, exchange of experience in preparation of their national communications.

According to the above mentioned, Uzbekistan considers that continuation of CGE activities is required due to its current terms and CGE mandate.
