
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fifth session
Bonn, 25 October - 5 November 1999
Agenda item 4 (a)

**REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS
AND OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION**

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES INCLUDED IN
ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION**

**Recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at their tenth sessions, decided to recommend jointly the following draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session:

Draft decision -/CP.5

**Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties
included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting
guidelines on annual inventories**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular Article 4, Article 10, paragraph 2, and Article 12,

Recalling its decision 3/CP.1 on preparation and submission of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, 4/CP.1 on methodological issues, 9/CP.2 on communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention: guidelines, schedule and process for consideration and 11/CP.4 on national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention,

Recognizing that anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol should be reported in a transparent, consistent, comparable, complete and accurate way,

Noting that the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, annexed to decision 9/CP.2, need to be updated to improve the transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the reported national greenhouse gas inventories and other information,

Noting the ongoing process of improvement in guidance to Parties on the reporting of greenhouse gases inventories, in particular the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change related to uncertainties and *good practices*,

1. *Decides* to adopt the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories, contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/6/Add.1;
2. *Decides* that Parties included in Annex I to the Convention should use the UNFCCC guidelines on annual inventories for reporting inventories due by 15 April each year, beginning in the year 2000;
3. *Invites* Parties included in Annex I to the Convention to submit separately, by 1 July 2001, information to the secretariat on experiences with using the guidelines, in particular the common reporting format, in the years 2000-2001;
4. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a report on the use of the guidelines, in particular the common reporting format, taking into account, *inter alia*, experiences gained by Parties in using the guidelines, and by the secretariat in processing the common reporting format, and input from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its fifteenth session in considering possible revisions to the guidelines;
5. *Decides* that revisions to these guidelines, particularly the common reporting format, shall be considered by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its fifteenth session with a view to submitting a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session.
