

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”.