



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.

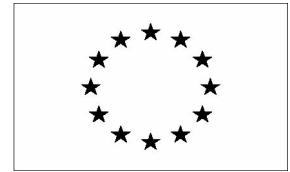
The EU believes that the CGE should continue to provide technical advice and support to developing countries for the preparation of their national communications and continue to assess how to improve such support and act as a forum for the exchange of best practices and experiences.

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

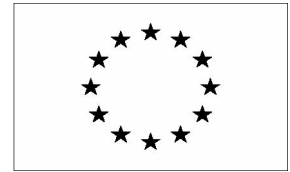
The membership of the CGE as determined in decision 3/CP.8, annex, paragraphs 3–8 should be reviewed with a view of increasing the number of Annex I Parties represented in the group by four. This will ensure the better dissemination of best practices and experiences between non-Annex I and Annex I Parties, 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.