

DRAFT

Workshop on exchange of experiences and good practices among non-Annex I Parties in preparing national communications and on cross-cutting issues 20 to 22 September 2007 Cairo, Egypt

Background

At COP 8, Parties extended the mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) with the objective of improving the process of preparation of the second and subsequent national communications by providing technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties. In providing technical advice to non-Annex I Parties, the CGE, with the assistance of the secretariat, organized six regional hands-on training workshops on national greenhouse gas inventories and vulnerability and adaptation assessments and one global workshop on mitigation. The workshops trained 325 experts from 125 non-Annex I Parties on various tools and methodologies needed to prepare the national communications. At SBI 25, Parties endorsed the work programme of the CGE for 2007 and in particular the workshop on exchange of experiences and good practices among non-Annex I Parties in preparing national communications and on cross-cutting issues. The workshop aims:

1. To improve the process of preparing national communications through exchange of good practices among experts in areas such as establishing a system for managing the preparation of national communications, promoting South-South cooperation, national communications in the context of national development planning and building capacity to ensure continuity of work on national communications;

2. To train experts from non-Annex I Parties on how to report information under the section “other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention” in the national communications using the template prepared by the CGE.

Day 1

Registration

Exchange of experiences and good practices among non-Annex I Parties in preparing national communications

The national communications process: Status and trends

This session will provide an overview of the role of national communications in UNFCCC and the trends in the preparations and submissions of national communications by non-Annex I Parties. In particular, discussions will focus on technical capacities needed to complete quality national communications in a timely manner.

Sustainability of the National Communication process

This session will identify good practices in building and/or sustaining institutions and experts to ensure the continuity of the process of preparing national communications. The group discussions will

focus on the different approaches that developing countries have adopted or may adopt to identify and involve key institutions and agencies in preparing national communications on the basis of their comparative strengths and mandates, and to develop and retain expertise.

Process management

This session will elaborate the process of managing the preparation of national communications such as collation of information from different institutions by experts, peer-review and establishing/updating databases, e.g. GHG inventories, V&A and mitigation assessments and technology needs.

Summary of discussions

The Chair of the sessions will outline key lessons-learned, issues and recommendations identified during plenary and small group discussions. Participants will be requested to provide feedback on insights gained throughout the day relating to the role of national communications in UNFCCC, in strengthening institutions and expertise and in managing the process of preparing national communications.

Day 2

Strengthening South-South cooperation

This session will identify areas for experts and institutions from developing countries to share expertise and resources in areas such as GHG inventories and V&A and mitigation assessments either through bilateral means or through regional collaboration.

National communication and socio-economic planning process

The participants will exchange views on how to strengthen linkages between the national communication process with the development and/or review and update of national development plans. In particular, the discussion will focus on areas and processes for linking national communications in the national development planning process.

Reporting of “other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention”

Overview of the CGE template on cross-cutting issues

This session will present the outcomes of CGE’s examination of initial national communications on the needs of experts from non-Annex I Parties relating to cross-cutting issues and an overview of the template.

Case Study Presentations

National experts that have applied the template will share their experiences on its effectiveness and provide suggestions on how to further improve the reporting of information on cross-cutting issues in national communications.

Representatives of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer and the LDC Expert Group will provide inputs on how information contained in technology needs assessments and the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) be considered into this section of national communications.

Day 3

Workshop on the applications of the template on cross-cutting issues

The objectives of this session include:

- 1) To go through the exercise of identifying the information needs, the process of acquiring the information and format for presentation of information using the template on cross-cutting issues.
- 2) To draw out from the participants their experiences and/or expectations on the use of the template on cross-cutting issues and exchange views on the range of technical information that may be included under the section “other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention”.

Successful accessing of financial and technical support

The objective of this session is to identify elements to improve access to financial and technical support to prepare national communications. Participants will discuss on the different regional initiatives that may be linked to the technical work on national communications.

Workshop summary
