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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Seventeenth session
New Delhi, 23–29 October 2002
Agenda item 5

DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES

Report of the second meeting of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT)

Note by the Chair of the EGTT

1. This note presents the report of the Chair of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) on the outcome of the second meeting of the EGTT convened on 20–21 October 2002 in New Delhi, India. In implementing its programme of work for the biennium 2002–2003, the EGTT discussed and agreed on the following conclusions and recommendations for further consideration by the SBSTA at its seventeenth session.

Technology needs assessment

2. The EGTT welcomed the presentation by the representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the draft UNDP–Global Environment Facility (GEF) Handbook on Methodologies for Technology Needs Assessments. It agreed to provide comments on the draft handbook to UNDP by 11 November 2002 and noted the UNDP plan to finalize this handbook by December 2002.

3. The EGTT took note of the collaborative effort of the International Energy Agency/Climate Technology Initiative (IEA/CTI), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other organizations in providing technical assistance to developing countries, including the organization of the Asian regional workshop on technology information and technology needs assessment, held in September 2002 in Beijing, China.

4. The EGTT recommends that the SBSTA invite the IEA/CTI, UNDP–GEF, UNEP and other organizations to continue providing assistance to developing countries on their technology needs assessments, including for the organization of the African regional workshop to be held on 9–13 December 2002 in Dakar, Senegal. It also recommends that the SBSTA invite the IEA/CTI and other organizations to consider organizing a training workshop for the Small Island Developing States.

5. The EGTT recommends that the SBSTA urge developed country Parties to provide support to developing country Parties in conducting their technology needs assessments.

Technology information and TT:CLEAR outreach programme

6. The EGTT took note of the presentations made by the secretariat on the following:

(a) A draft proposal on the technology information system (TT:CLEAR) outreach and maintenance programme;

- (b) An update on the use of the system;
- (c) Presentation of the TT:CLEAR at the IEA/CTI-UNEP Asian regional workshop on technology information and technology needs assessments, held in September 2002, in Beijing, China.

7. The EGTT invited UNEP to present to the EGTT at its third meeting an update on the status of the GEF-funded UNEP project on Sustainable Alternatives Network (SANet) activities and on the possible contributions this project can provide to the current programme of work of the EGTT.

8. The EGTT recommends that the SBSTA invite UNEP to collaborate further with the secretariat in the work on SANet and TT:CLEAR, including SANet's function of 'matchmaking' between persons and/or organizations interested in the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

Activities on capacity-building

9. The EGTT considered a draft informal paper prepared by the secretariat on "Overview of capacity-building activities under the UNFCCC" and discussed the possible next steps to advance capacity-building activities for technology transfer, which may also serve as an input to the comprehensive review of the capacity-building framework at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP).

10. In this context, the EGTT recommends to the SBSTA:

- (a) To request the secretariat to prepare a technical paper, bearing in mind that capacity-building is a cross-cutting issue within the Marrakesh Accords, outlining experiences, lessons learned, success stories and challenges in building the capacity of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in the development and transfer of technologies. The paper should also identify and streamline possible prioritized capacity-building activities relating to the development and transfer of technologies;

- (b) To encourage the expert groups constituted under the Convention to discuss among themselves how to harmonize and further enhance cooperation on the implementation of capacity-building decisions.

11. The EGTT agreed to further consider, at its third meeting, specific capacity-building activities and a possible capacity-building programme, for consideration by the SBSTA at its eighteenth session.

Enabling environments for technology transfer

12. The EGTT agreed on possible next steps to advance the work on enabling environments for technology transfer.

13. In this context, the EGTT recommends to the SBSTA:

- (a) To request the secretariat to organize a workshop on enabling environments for technology transfer in April 2003, with the aim of facilitating an exchange of views and experiences to promote enabling environments, and to report on the findings of the workshop to the SBSTA at its eighteenth session;

- (b) To request the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on enabling environments for technology transfer on the basis of terms of reference recommended by the EGTT. The technical paper will be finalized by the EGTT at its third meeting and made available to the SBSTA at its eighteenth session.

14. The EGTT agreed on the terms of reference for the above technical paper on enabling environments, with a reservation from one member on the issue relating to the distinction between enabling environments in general and those under Article 4.5.

Financial support for technology transfer framework

15. The EGTT took note of the presentation made by the representative of the GEF on an overview of the analyses of lessons learned from the GEF-funded climate change projects relating to technology transfer. This presentation will be made available on the UNFCCC web site.

16. The EGTT recommends that the SBSTA, through the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), invite the GEF to prepare a synthesis report on the lessons learned on the development and transfer of technologies based on the climate change-related projects, and to make it available to the EGTT as an input to its future work.

17. The EGTT took note that the SBI at its seventeenth session will consider the agenda item on additional guidance for the GEF, in particular on the special climate change fund. It also noted that the special climate change fund was identified as one of the funding sources to support the activities and programmes listed in the annex to decision 4/CP.7.

18. The EGTT recommends that the SBSTA convey information to the SBI on the specific needs relating to technology transfer activities when the SBI considers the agenda item on additional guidance for the GEF.

Election of officers

19. The EGTT, at its second meeting, elected Mr. William Kojo Agyemang Bonsu (Ghana) as Chair and Mr. Richard Bradley (United States of America) as Vice-chair of the EGTT for the year 2003.
