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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Sixteenth session

Bonn, 5-14 June 2002

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

**ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC
AWARENESS**

Submissions from Parties

1. At its fifteenth session, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) requested the secretariat, resources permitting, to organize a workshop to develop a work programme on Article 6 activities with regionally balanced categories of participants.
2. Parties were invited to provide comments on the draft terms of reference of the proposed workshop to the secretariat by 31 December 2001 (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/8, para. 45 (e)).
3. Six such submissions* have been received from Parties. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

FCCC/SBSTA/2002/MISC.13

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PAPER NO. 1: AZERBAIJAN

Thank You very much for reminding us of the chronological order to comment on papers provided to Azerbaijan as Party to Convention and included as attachment to Your letter from December 12, 2001.

We fully support an initiative of Paragraph 5 of the documents of 13th session of SBSTA to held a workshop aimed at development of implementation mechanism for Article 6 of the Convention: Education, Training and Awareness. We also support an Agenda of proposed workshop. In Azerbaijan with its' economy living through the transition period there are many problems with informing the publicity and policy makers on possible climate change impacts both at the national and individual levels, and preparing the relevant specialists. In these terms development of implementation mechanism, study of experience of developed countries in that field and provision of support to the states with economies in transition becomes one of the most important matters.

Again thank You very much.

PAPER NO. 2: BELGIUM

(ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES, AND THE STATES OF CENTRAL GROUP 11)

BRUSSELS, 21 DECEMBER 2001

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKSHOP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A WORK PROGRAMME ON ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION (EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND PUBLIC AWARENESS)

Belgium, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, and the States of Central Group 11 hereby provides comments on the Draft terms of reference contained in Annex to the document FCCC/SBSTA/2001/L.13.

These Draft terms of reference provide a good basis for designing the programme of a useful workshop organised according to paragraph 5 of the draft conclusions contained in FCCC/SBSTA/2001/L.13, and we would like to offer the following comments:

*** About the objectives:**

We subscribe to the two objectives outlined, but consider that the workshop must also help identify possible arrangements that could help the co-ordination of the work made in this area by the various organisations already engaged in “Article 6” – related activities, so that duplication can be avoided and synergies can be found.

*** About the activities:**

We would like to recall the SBSTA consensus about the importance of outreach activities related to the IPCC TAR in the context of Article 6 of the Convention¹, including simplified versions and opportunities to make key documents available in non-UN languages. These activities should be a specific agenda item at the workshop.

The structure and content of the “broader web site” mentioned in paragraph 4 of the draft conclusions should be addressed during the workshop. We welcome the efforts made by the Secretariat to develop its web site in this area at the occasion of COP7².

Further, we would like to recall several EU proposals made at the 14th SBSTA session in Bonn. These could be discussed at the UNFCCC workshop:

- setting up of joint programmes so that courses, training, programmes and qualifications on scientific and technical aspects of emission inventories can be established;
- exploration of opportunities for youth participation at every Conference of the Parties in collaboration with UNEP and other relevant organisations;
- and, last but not least, stimulate education and public awareness by the media: television, radio, printed press, advertisements, government campaigns, NGO activities and Internet.

The resources implications of any proposed SBSTA work programme on UNFCCC Article 6 should also be considered.

¹ Following the SBSTA conclusions contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2001/L.17.

² See: www.unfccc.int/cop7/issues/clearing/awareness.html

*** About the organisation of the workshop:**

We would like to highlight the importance of carefully balancing the participation of experts in education, training, and public awareness on one hand and of government representatives involved in the climate change process on the other hand. Representatives of UN bodies and programmes active in this field (including UNEP, UNITAR, UNDP, IPCC, UNESCO, WMO, GCOS, UNIDO, UNFF...), other intergovernmental, regional organisations, secretariats of the CBD, CCD, Vienna Convention, and its Montreal Protocol, and NGO's should also be invited. A representative from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) should also be invited, in line with paragraph 1 of the draft conclusions contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2001/L.13.

A webcasting and/or reporting by the Earth Negotiations Bulletin³ of the workshop might help broaden participation.

In order to share experiences, help to prioritise its needs, and prepare its participation to the SBSTA workshop, the EU plans to hold an internal workshop about UNFCCC Article 6 issues under the Spanish Presidency of the European Union.

Some Member States of the European Union are considering hosting and/or contributing to the funding of the UNFCCC workshop, and will inform the Secretariat in due course.

³ See: www.iisd.ca

PAPER 3: CANADA

**Views on the draft terms of reference of the workshop for the development of
a work programme on Article 6 of the Convention**

Introduction:

Canada welcomes the opportunity to make a submission concerning the proposed terms of reference for this workshop, prepared by the secretariat (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/L.13, Annex).

Role of the Private Sector

Canada fully supports the organization of a workshop to develop a work programme on Article 6 activities, with regionally balanced categories of participants, and largely agrees with the workshop as proposed. However, the SBSTA recognized that the private sector has a role in education, training and public awareness, and thus should also be invited to take part in the proposed workshop.

Need for cost-effectiveness

SBSTA also noted the need for cost-effective products and practices, and Canada agrees that the workshop participants should have this as a goal.

PAPER NO. 4: CHINA

**COMMENTS ON TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKSHOP FOR DEVELOPING
A WORK PROGRAMME ON ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION:
EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS**

Education, training and public awareness are essential to an adequate response to climate change because the climate change issue and related responses are so complex. Since climate change presents a significant challenge, it is very important that both decision-makers and the general public are educated about climate change and its impacts as well as associated uncertainties. Therefore, the implementation of Article 6 of the UNFCCC is essential for dealing with the climate change issue.

In this connection, China welcomed that the SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a workshop to develop a work programme on Article 6 and to prepare a report on the results of the workshop for consideration at its sixteenth session.

With regard to the draft terms of reference of the workshop, China has the following comments:

1) For the objective of the proposed workshop, there is a need to consider the specific circumstance and needs for developing countries in the implementation of Article 6, which implies that the population in developing countries are generally exposed to relatively high risks of adverse impacts from climate change, and that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of the developing countries.

2) Also for the objective of the proposed workshop, the issue of Capacity Building relating to the implementation of Article 6 in developing countries should be fully emphasized in the discussion of the workshop.

3) For the activities of the proposed workshop, the funding to support the implementation of Article 6 on national and regional level is a fundamental issue. Even if Global Environment Facility (GEF) had launched Country Dialogue Workshops, which seek, among the other, to promote awareness raising, China believe that the workshop will also work out the ways and means to further seek or mobilize the funding as the guidance to the GEF relating to Article 6 in the future.

4) If resources permitting, Third Assessment Report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as well as related training and educational materials should be focused in the work programme of SBSTA in order to promote public awareness and the others.

5) The full use of the Internet for educational and training materials can be very useful for reaching the widest possible audience. This modern tool for the implementation of Article 6 also should be considered in the workshop.

PAPER NO. 5: TURKMENISTAN

In reply to your fax message dd.December 3, 2001. Hereby Turkmen party support the project decision on point 1 of Summary table.

Yours Sincerely and Best Wishes in New Year

Durdyev Amanmurad,
National Coordinator
for Climate Change of
Turkmenistan

PAPER NO. 6: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Annex

Draft terms of reference of the workshop for the development of a work programme on Article 6 of the Convention

Duration: Four days.

Place: To be determined.

Objectives:

1. To define and prioritize the elements of a SBSTA work programme on Article 6.
2. To identify how United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental non-governmental organizations could support Parties, particularly non-Annex I Parties and Parties with economies in transition, in implementing such a programme at the national level.

Activities

1. To review the needs identified in document FCCC/SBSTA/2001/6 and Add.1, and to identify elements for inclusion in a possible SBSTA work programme, including the establishment of priorities. Potential agenda items for discussion at the workshop would also include, but not be limited to the cross-cutting themes of: identification and prioritization of audiences (e.g., policymakers, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, the public, the media, academia, research institutions, community-based organizations, etc.); development of institutional and technical capacity to assess public awareness needs; and a discussion of the potential use of Internet-based tools, such as TT:CLEAR and other databases and websites, for sharing information among Parties and with the public. Also of interest would be a discussion about the successes of and lessons learned from UN-sponsored, internationally designated days, such as World Ozone Day and World Environment Day.
2. To consider the needs and recommendations in document FCCC/SBI/2001/15 concerning education, training and public awareness and to suggest how relevant aspects might be integrated in a SBSTA work programme.
3. To consider information available from United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and Parties' on their respective activities relating to Article 6 and to identify ways in which Parties might use this existing knowledge and capacity in the implementation of Article 6 at the national level.
4. To identify examples of effective education and outreach initiatives, information products and mechanisms for information exchange.
