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Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Provision of financial and technical support

Views from Parties on their current experiences with the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies in relation to the provision of financial support for the preparation of national communications

Submissions from Parties

Addendum

1. In addition to the two submissions contained in document FCCC/SBI/2007/MISC.13, four further submissions have been received.
2. 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.

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PAPER NO. 1: BRAZIL

Provision of financial and technical support for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Submission by Brazil

Following the invitation contained in the conclusions of the 26th session of the Subsidiary Body of Implementation (paragraph 5 of document FCCC/SBI/2007/L12), the Government of Brazil welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on its current experiences with the GEF and its implementing agencies in relation to the provision of financial support for the preparation of national communications.

According to Article 4.3 of the UNFCCC, “The developed country Parties and other developed Parties included in Annex II shall provide new and additional financial resources to meet the agreed full costs incurred by developing country parties” in preparing their national communications. The GEF, as a financial mechanism of the UNFCCC, is expected to act accordingly. Arrangements under the GEF to provide resources for such activities should take fully into consideration the Convention text, including funding commitments of Annex II Parties.

The umbrella project established under GEF-3 channels resources to most of the second National Communications (NatComs) activities of non-Annex I country Parties during the GEF-4 period. However, the GEF does not provide a clear view on what will entail when those countries finish their second NatComs and subsequently initiate preparations for their third NatCom still during GEF-4. The GEF must present a coherent view for subsequent NatComs, while explicitly recognizing that the preparation of NatComs is a continuing process, as acknowledged by the COP in the preamble to Decision 8/CP.11.

Furthermore, Decision 8/CP.11, para. 3, states that “non-Annex I Parties shall make all efforts to submit their second and, where appropriate, third national communication, within four years of the initial disbursement of financial resources for the actual preparation of the national communication”. Para 2 of this decision also states that “non-Annex I Parties that have submitted their national communications should apply for the financing of their subsequent national communications at any time between three to five years of the initial disbursement.” The GEF must take all measures necessary to allow that Parties not included in Annex I may start the process for subsequent NatComs support before completing their current NatComs. This would help in avoiding discontinuity in project financing, in light of the continuing nature of the process of national communications, as mentioned above.

Any GEF arrangement for supporting NatComs in non-Annex I Parties should take into consideration Article 4.3 of the UNFCCC. In this view, it is unacceptable that the agreed full costs be deducted from national or group allocations under the RAF.

The GEF has no authority or mandate to evaluate the content of non-Annex I Parties’ NatComs. This evaluation clearly encroaches upon the authority of the CoP. The GEF’s role is to provide resources in line with the guidance provided by and accountable to the CoP, which shall decide on its policies, program priorities and eligibility criteria, as stated in Article 11.1 of the UNFCCC. Decision 17/CP.8 further provides the guidance that must be considered by non-Annex I Parties in their NatComs. The GEF cannot indicate, suggest or adopt any criteria NatCom beyond what has been agreed in that decision.

PAPER NO. 2: JAMAICA

Submission of Jamaica on Additional Guidance to the GEF on Views and recommendations from Parties on funding available to them for climate change focal area

Jamaica is very concerned that the amount of funding provided by the GEF to Jamaica and other countries with similar circumstances is woefully inadequate. The main concern is the amount of funding that was made available to Jamaica for the preparation of its second national communication under the expedited funding facility. The sum of \$405,000 was made available to countries. How this figure was formulated was never explained but us. All counties regardless of its size are allocated the same amount.

What has not being taken into context is that what can be accomplished with this amount by each country will be a function of its size. Those countries that are smaller than Jamaica will obviously be able to achieve more. However, the irony is that it is expected that all national communications must be similar in their outcomes in terms of the final product that is produced.

Jamaica will find it extremely difficult to complete a comprehensive report of its vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change and in developing the measures that will be required to adequately adapt to these impacts. The amount that was approved in the budget to complete an integrated assessment of the five sectors of agriculture, water resources, human health, human settlements, and coastal resources is not enough to give a full picture.

This is our major concern and one that should be properly addressed as soon as possible. Adapting to climate change is of utmost importance to Jamaica and the provision of good information will be critical to our ability to get international assistance. If the assessments are not undertaken correctly and comprehensively then our intervention and responses will be far below our true requirements. This could have devastating consequences as some of the communities that are at risk could be overlooked for attention due to a lack of funding.

PAPER NO. 3: PARAGUAY

Submisión de la República del Paraguay a la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático Guías Adicionales al Fondo Mundial de Medio Ambiente Visión y Recomendación de las Partes en la disponibilidad de financiamiento en el área focal de Cambio Climático

Teniendo en cuenta la invitación contenida en el Decisión 3/CP.12 párrafo 5 Paraguay quisiera presentar sus comentarios y recomendaciones en referencia a la disponibilidad de fondos en el área focal de cambio climático, para la compilación a ser realizada por la Secretaria a fin de que la misma sea considerada en la 13th Conferencia de las Partes y sea transmitida al Consejo del Fondo Mundial de Medio Ambiente (GEF) a través de la Secretaria.

La Segunda Comunicación Nacional del Paraguay se encuentra en preparación, será presentada a la Conferencia de las Partes en el año 2009, a fin de mantener el proceso se ha estimado la necesidad de prever fondos del Marco de Alocación de Recursos para la preparación de la Tercera Comunicación Nacional, teniendo en cuenta que así como otros países nos encontraremos en la situación de que la 5ta. Reposición de Fondos al GEF no se encontrara disponible a ese tiempo. La situación no hace ventajosa la posición de un país como el nuestro altamente vulnerable a los cambios climáticos y al cual solo se han asignado dentro del grupo de países 2,5 millones de dólares.

Paraguay, considera que para la próxima reposición del GEF, recursos adicionales deben ser comprometidos de forma a apoyar las actividades habilitantes identificadas en las prioridades nacionales de los países en vías de desarrollo, y de esta forma evitar que los recursos del Marco de Alocación de Recursos sean utilizados con estas actividades y que el financiamiento a las actividades habilitadoras no se encuentren comprometidas dentro del Marco de Asignación de Recursos.

Paraguay considera que el papel que juega el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (GEF) como la institución operadora de los mecanismos financieros de la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático es de gran importancia, en especial en lo referente a la canalización de recursos a los países para la ejecución de medidas de adaptación al cambio climático. Sin embargo, a los efectos de apoyar los esfuerzos mundiales en el área de adaptación es necesario que se incluyan los siguientes aspectos Y EN PARTICULAR AL Fondo Especial del Cambio Climático:

§ Establecer un mecanismo que permita la asignación de recursos para la ejecución de los planes nacionales de adaptación elaborados a partir de los estudios de vulnerabilidad y adaptación de las comunicaciones nacionales

§ Incrementar los recursos financieros para proyectos de adaptación, brindando preferencia para el acceso a los mismos a los países en vías de desarrollo, los cuales tiene capacidad muy baja para afrontar exitosamente los procesos de adaptación al cambio climático.

§ Para el acceso al financiamiento de los proyectos de adaptación, no solamente se debe comprobar que las relaciones beneficio-costos son favorables; sino también consideraciones sociales, que son las que permitirán hacer menos vulnerables a las comunidades y de manera sinérgica reducir la pobreza.

§ Las agencias de implementación del GEF, deben asegurar el cumplimiento de los mandatos de la CMNUCC y del GEF en relación al financiamiento. El trabajo de dichas agencias debe estar en todo momento regido en base a las prioridades establecidas en los países.

§ Reducir, al menos en los países en vías de desarrollo la contraparte requerida por el GEF, debido a que en estos países, la disponibilidad de recursos de aporte nacional son escasos.

PAPER NO. 4: UZBEKISTAN

**View of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the current experience with GEF
and its implementing agencies**

Republic of Uzbekistan works in close cooperation with GEF and supports the activities of the UNFCCC Secretariat on the improvement of activities of GEF and its implementing agencies with Parties non included in Annex 1 to the Convention for the preparation of the second and further National Communications.

In 1997-1999 the Republic of Uzbekistan with the financial support of GEF has completed the preparation of its Initial National Communication on climate change in the framework of UNDP/GEF Project «Uzbekistan – country study of climate change».

In 2001 The Republic of Uzbekistan had implemented the Second Phase of the Project on the Initial National Communication with GEF financing on the technological needs assessment on the GHG reduction emission in the key sectors of the country's economy.

Since 2005 the Republic of Uzbekistan is implementing the preparation of its Second National Communication with the financial support of GEF/UNEP which will be completed in 2008. In the framework of the Second National Communication Uzbekistan is developing the National Adaptation Strategy which will include the adaptation measures in different sectors of the national economy.

Taking into account the new procedures on preparation of projects for GEF financing, Uzbekistan could use the GEF funds for the adaptation projects. However, for initiation of the developing these projects it is necessary to conduct trainings for the local experts on the projects' preparation in accordance with the new GEF procedures for the project's financing.
