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**SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

**Twenty-eighth session**

**Bonn, 4–13 June 2008**

**Agenda item 3 (a)**

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

**Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties  
not included in Annex I to the Convention**

**Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications  
from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

The Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its twenty-eighth session, decided to continue consideration of this agenda item at its twenty-ninth session (December 2008) based on the draft text contained in the annex to these conclusions with a view to recommending a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth session.

Annex

**Text for a draft decision for consideration by the Subsidiary Body  
for Implementation at its twenty-ninth session**

**Draft decision -/CP.14**

**Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications  
from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3 and 7, [and] Article 12, paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 7, [and Article 10, paragraph 2(a)],

*Recalling* decisions 8/CP.5, 3/CP.8, 17/CP.8 and 8/CP.11,

*Acknowledging* that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention has made a substantial contribution [to enhancing the capacity of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) to improve the process of preparing their national communications] [to improving the process of preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties by providing technical advice and support],

*Reiterating* the importance of providing relevant technical advice and support for the [process of] preparation of national communications [and improvement in their quality],

[*Reiterating* the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties to share regional, subregional and national experiences in the process of preparation of national communications,]

[*Acknowledging* that the work of the Consultative Group of Experts is related to elements of decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan),]

*Recognizing* that the preparation of national communications is a continuing process,

1. *Decides* to [reconstitute] [continue the mandate of] the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention;

2. *Decides also* that the Consultative Group of Experts [, in fulfilling its mandate,] shall function in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to this decision;

3. *Decides further* that the term and the mandate of the Consultative Group of Experts shall be reviewed by the Conference of the Parties at its [fifteenth] [sixteenth] [eighteenth] session;

4. [*Requests* the Consultative Group of Experts to develop, at its [first][next] meeting and in cooperation with the National Communications Support Programme, a work programme for 2009–2010;]

5. [*Also requests* the Consultative Group of Experts to collaborate with the National Communications Support Programme, the Expert Group on Technology Transfer and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in the implementation of its work programme;]

6. [Requests the Consultative Group of Experts, in defining and implementing its work programme, to draw upon other relevant work such as that carried out under the National Communications Support Programme and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in order to avoid duplication;]
7. *Further requests* the secretariat to facilitate, in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 2(c), of the Convention and decision 17/CP.8, the work of the Consultative Group of Experts by supporting the implementation of activities identified in paragraph 9 of the annex to this decision, organizing the meetings [and activities of the group; disseminating the information materials and technical reports prepared by the group to Parties, relevant experts and organizations] and compiling reports [on behalf of the group] for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation;
8. [Decides that arrangements for funding the meetings of the Consultative Group of Experts should be provided for in the budget of the secretariat;]
9. *Invites* Parties [included in Annex II to the Convention] to contribute financial resources to support the activities [including workshops] and work [programme] of the Consultative Group of Experts;
10. [Requests the secretariat to support the activities of the Consultative Group of Experts, by, inter alia, facilitating the organization of meetings and preparing background materials, documents and workshop reports, as appropriate, which will be made available to Parties.];
11. [*Also requests* the secretariat to include on the UNFCCC website information on activities and programmes that facilitate the preparation of national communications.]

Annex**Terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

1. The objective of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) shall be to improve [the process of] [preparation of] second and subsequent national communications [and, as appropriate and where relevant, initial national communications from Parties which have not yet submitted them] [and the quality of the information therein] [with a view to assessing the implementation of the requirements of the Convention] [on implementation of the Convention] by providing technical advice and support to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties). [For Parties that have not yet completed their initial national communications, the objective shall also be to improve the process of preparation of initial national communications.]
2. The CGE shall be composed of experts [drawn from the roster of experts] [with demonstrated competence] [with expertise] in greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation and other matters relating to the preparation of national communications.
3. The CGE shall comprise [25] [30] experts as follows:
  - (a) [Five] [Seven] members from non-Annex I Parties from each of the following regional groups: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean;
  - (b) [Six] [Five] members from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties), including one from a country with an economy in transition;
  - (c) One member from each of three international organizations with relevant experience in providing technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national communications;
  - (d) [One member from the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility.]
4. The members shall be nominated by their relevant constituencies referred to in paragraph 3 above. The CGE may invite additional experts, if and when required, on the basis of their specific areas of expertise.
5. The members of the CGE shall be nominated for a period of [xxx] years and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) shall be notified of these appointments.
6. Representatives of non-Annex I Parties from the three regional groups referred to in paragraph 3 (a) above shall serve as Chair and Rapporteur of the CGE on a rotational basis. The Chair shall serve for a period of [one] year. The Rapporteur shall succeed in serving as Chair, at which time a new Rapporteur shall be nominated.
7. If a member of the CGE resigns, or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of that office, the secretariat may, depending on the proximity of the next session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), request the group that had nominated the member to nominate another member to replace the said member for the remainder of that member's mandate.
8. The CGE shall meet twice a year, each time in conjunction with sessions of the subsidiary bodies or with workshops or other events organized in order for the CGE to accomplish its work. [Ad hoc

meetings may be convened, subject to the availability of funds and in consultation with the Chair of the SBI, when such meetings are deemed necessary for the CGE to fulfil its mandate] [, depending on the number of national communications to be considered.]

9. The CGE shall:

- (a) Identify and assess technical problems and constraints that [have been affecting] [have affected] the [process of] preparation of [second and subsequent] national communications from non-Annex I Parties [and, where appropriate, initial national communications from non-Annex I Parties that have yet to complete them] and make recommendations to address such problems and constraints [, as appropriate];
- (b) Identify and assess [, as appropriate,] the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the use of the guidelines annexed to decision 17/CP.8 [and the methodologies] for the preparation of national communications and make recommendations for their improvement [, as necessary];
- (c) [Perform comparative assessments of the first and subsequent national communications, where applicable, provided by non-Annex I Parties in order to assess the progress made in meeting the requirements of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties] [in order to identify further opportunities for improvement];
- (d) [Examine [second and where appropriate third] national communications, [either individually or grouped on a regional basis based on similar national circumstances,] [prepared] in accordance with the guidelines annexed to decision 17/CP.8 [and with the assistance of the secretariat], with a view to [making appropriate recommendations aimed at] improving the [quality,] consistency [and transparency] of information [to be] provided [in national communications] [, data collection, the use of local and regional emission factors and activity data and the development of methodologies;]
- (e) [Develop, for consideration by the SBI at its thirtieth session, recommendations for the structure and operation of a process for examining national communications individually in order to ensure full implementation of the Convention, in particular for the SBI to assess the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Parties in the light of the latest scientific assessments concerning climate change. The process should involve, as far as possible, individuals from non-Annex I Parties with demonstrated competence in relevant areas of expertise, take account of alternative costs, and the least cost alternative consistent with high-quality examination;]
- (f) Provide technical advice on [tools and methodologies for conducting] national GHG inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, and mitigation [activities] [and integration of climate change policies into national development planning and policies;]
- (g) [Develop recommendations, for consideration by the SBI at its thirtieth session, on the elements of revised guidelines to be used for the preparation of [third and, where appropriate, subsequent] [subsequent] [future] national communications, taking into account relevant decisions by the COP and the work mentioned in paragraph 9 (b) above;]
- (h) [Provide technical advice [and support] [to the SBI] in strengthening the [process of] preparation of national communications, including through [workshops, hands-on-training workshops and] training of trainers at the regional and subregional levels,

[undertaking technical assessments] and sharing of experiences and/or lessons learned in [the process of] preparing national communications;]

- (i) [Provide guidance and provisions to facilitate the [development of an institutional framework to ensure] continuity in the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties;]
- (j) [Provide, as appropriate, technical advice to the SBI on matters relating to the implementation of the Convention by non-Annex I Parties;]
- (k) [Review existing activities and programmes, including those of multilateral and bilateral funding sources, in order to facilitate and support the preparation of second and subsequent national communications from non-Annex I Parties and the development and implementation of projects submitted in national communications in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4, of the Convention and report on its findings;]
- (l) [Develop agendas for workshops and meetings, with the assistance of the secretariat, to ensure adequate coverage of issues identified in the mandate.]

10. [The CGE shall make recommendations on the matters indicated in paragraph 9 above to the SBI for its consideration;]

11. [The CGE shall carry out other work directed to it by the SBI, the COP or other subsidiary bodies, as appropriate;]

12. [The CGE shall prepare a work programme for 2009–20XX taking into account the activities outlined in paragraph 9 above.]

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