

19 October 2012

English only

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-seventh session

Doha, 26 November to 1 December 2012

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Thirty-seventh session

Doha, 26 November to 1 December 2012

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures

Views from Parties and relevant organizations on the following areas of the work programme in accordance with decision 8/CP.17, paragraph 1: area (a), sharing of information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures; area (f), relevant aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol; area (h), building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society

Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), at its sixteenth session, decided to provide a forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures, and to that end requested the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to convene such a forum at the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions of these bodies, with the objective of developing a work programme under the subsidiary bodies to address these impacts, with a view to adopting,

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at the seventeenth session of the COP, modalities for the operationalization of the work programme and a possible forum on response measures.¹

2. The SBSTA and the SBI, at their thirty-sixth sessions, invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 17 September 2012, their views for consideration by the SBSTA and the SBI at their thirty-seventh sessions.²

3. The secretariat has received four such submissions from Parties.³ In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the languages in which they were received and without formal editing.

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 93.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2012/2, paragraph 46, and FCCC/SBI/2012/15, paragraph 168, respectively.

³ Also available at <http://unfccc.int/documentation/submissions_from_parties/items/5902.php>.

* 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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* This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Submission under decision 8/CP.1 | October 2012

Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures | SBI, SBSTA

I. Overview

This submission contains the views of the Australian Government, as requested under the agreed work-plan for the Joint Subsidiary Bodies Forum on the Impact of the Implementation of Response Measures (the Forum).⁴ Australia also draws attention to its previous submission on response measures.⁵

The decision at Durban to establish the Forum was an important step forward. The Forum aims to promote greater understanding of the positive and negative impacts of response measures, and has four main features:

It consolidates all related discussions under the Convention, allowing for more efficient and targeted discussions than has been the case previously.

It provides a place for discussions on response measures to be carried forward, beyond closure of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Long Term Collaborative Action (AWG-LCA) at the eighteenth Conference of the Parties in Doha, Qatar, November – December 2012 (COP18).

It allows for specific technical inputs from Parties, experts, practitioners and relevant organisations, to build an evidence base on the impacts Parties may face in the future, which has been missing previously.

It allows for decision making, as its work will be reviewed by the subsidiary bodies with a view to providing recommendations to COP19.

II Input on areas of the Forum's work plan

Parties were invited to submit information on areas A, F and H of the Forum's work plan. Australia's input on these items is set out below.

Area A: Sharing information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures.

⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.18 and FCCC/SBI/2012/L.25

⁵ Australia's previous submission on response measures from September 2011 is available online at: <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/unfccc/submissions.aspx>

All Parties must prepare for the changes we face as we move to a low-carbon world, and take advantage of the opportunities these changes will create for sustainable growth. Some Parties are better equipped than others to meet this challenge. With that in mind, the Forum's work should focus on how to best assist the poorest and most vulnerable countries, including Least Developed Countries and the Small Island Developing States, to diversify their economies and build economic resilience.

The Forum should provide an opportunity for best practice exchanges on what countries are doing, and can do, to diversify and transition their economies and workforce's for a sustainable future. Given the relatively abstract nature of discussions on this topic in the UNFCCC to date, a more scientific approach is needed to enhance understanding of the nature of the impacts Parties may face in the future.

Australia's national inventory reports provide information on response measures issues under the UNFCCC, and are submitted in April each year. Reporting on inventories and actions builds knowledge and confidence in the actions of other Parties, and strengthens the global response to climate change. To maximise coherence and efficiency, we should endeavour to coordinate discussions and reporting on impacts of the implementation of response measures, and leverage work undertaken elsewhere. Reporting structures and procedures on response measures should be streamlined and effective to ensure that limited reporting resources are allocated effectively.

When considering cooperation on response measures, we must have regard for the appropriate forums to address response measures issues. The mitigation of climate change is the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC, while the World Trade Organization (WTO) is the competent body to make and enforce global trade rules, including their application to policies addressing climate change.

The WTO has the formal mandate, relevant expertise and formal structures to appropriately deal with a broad range of issues relating to trade and environment, including in making trade and climate change as mutually supportive as possible.

Area F: Relevant aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13, and 1/CP.16, and Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of the Kyoto Protocol.

Important progress has been made across a range of areas on implementation of decisions under the mandate of the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Long Term Collaborative Action. Dedicated bodies have been established to progress technology transfer, climate finance, adaptation, capacity building, and impact of response measures.

These include the Transitional Committee and the Green Climate Fund, the Technology Executive Committee, the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the Adaptation Committee, and the Joint Subsidiary Bodies Forum on Response Measures. These bodies have substantive work programs and it will be important to allow them sufficient time to conduct their work.

During 2011, Parties shared information and expert views on ways developing countries can undertake economic diversification, for example to manage the risk of economic overdependence on greenhouse gas intensive exports.

Area H: Building collective and individual learning towards transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society

Australia is taking strong action to tackle climate change including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting energy efficiency, working to adapt to climate change impacts, and helping to shape a global solution.

Australia will unconditionally reduce its emissions by 5 per cent compared with 2000 levels by 2020 and by up to 15 or 25 percent per cent by 2020, based on strict conditions relating to the extent of global action. By 2050, Australia will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 per cent compared with 2000 levels⁶.

Australia's Clean Energy Future Legislation includes a price on carbon, promotes innovation and investment in renewable energy, encourages energy efficiency, and creates opportunities to cut pollution in the land sector.

⁶ Australia's submission on clarification from May 2012 sets out further information on Australia's targets:
<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/en/government/initiatives/unfccc/submissions/20120504-clarification.aspx>

Paper no. 2: Cyprus and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States

SUBMISSION BY CYPRUS AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

Nicosia, 14 September 2012

Subject: Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures – submission on areas (a), (f) and (h) of the work programme

Introduction

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Technological Advice (SBSTA) at their thirty-sixth sessions invited Parties and relevant organisations to submit to the Secretariat, by 17 September 2012, views on areas (a), (f) and (h) of the work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures as contained in paragraph 1 of decision 8/CP.17.

2. The EU welcomes this opportunity to share its views on these three areas of the work programme. As provided for by footnote *d* in Annex I of document FCCC/SBI/2012/15 (and the identical Annex III of document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/2), the EU's views on the three areas will be jointly addressed in the present submission.

On area (a) – Sharing of information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures

3. Sharing of information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures are a key element in the implementation of the provisions relating to the impact of the implementation of response measures under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.

4. The EU is therefore of the view that sharing of information and expertise among Parties, experts, relevant organisations and civil society on the positive and negative impacts of response measures is a, if not the, central task of the forum and work programme established by decision 8/CP.17. This is underscored by paragraph 1 of decision 8/CP.17 which refers to the objective of the work programme as improving the understanding of the impact of the implementation of response measures.

5. The EU and its Member States are already reporting on the impacts of the implementation of response measures, both in National Communications and annually in National Inventory Reports. In addition to this regular reporting, all European legislative proposals and many national policy and project proposals are subject to mandatory comprehensive impact assessments.

6. For European legislative proposals, the European Commission assesses the potential economic, social and environmental consequences that these may have. This includes a proportionate assessment of the impacts on third countries, in particular developing countries, as well as an extensive stakeholder consultation. The impact assessment is a process that prepares evidence for political decision-makers on the advantages and disadvantages of possible policy options by assessing their potential impacts. This approach ensures that relevant expertise is drawn upon, including inputs from stakeholders. This system is both accountable and transparent. All EU impact assessments and all opinions of the Impact Assessment Board on their quality are published online once the Commission has adopted the relevant proposal. See http://ec.europa.eu/governance/impact/index_en.htm for further information.

7. While the EU is making significant efforts to understand and address the impacts of the implementation of response measures both inside the EU and vis-à-vis our partners, we would welcome more detailed and more structured information from other Parties, especially from developing country Parties, on what impacts they are experiencing “on the ground”. In addition to setting out how they are addressing impacts of the implementation of response measures (both response measures they are taking themselves, as well as response measures taken by other Parties in addressing climate change), this information should also point at the positive impacts of the implementation of those measures.

8. To this end, we would encourage all Parties to provide timely and regular information through existing channels, such as National Communications, National Inventory Reports and supplementary information. In addition, we believe that meetings of the forum should be used as a platform for sharing information and expertise in an interactive manner. Existing written information could be placed on a dedicated webpage of the UNFCCC website so that it may be more conveniently located and used.

On area (f) – Relevant aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3 and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol

9. By establishing the forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures in Durban, Parties decided to consolidate all progressive discussions, including negotiations, related to response measures in a single space under the Convention.

10. The EU welcomes this important development, which has allowed Parties to move away from discussions on purely procedural issues across multiple agenda items towards a much more constructive and focused engagement on substance, and which means that all aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3 and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol are now within the remit of the forum and its work programme.

11. As the list of COP and CMP decisions contained in paragraph 1 (f) of decision 8/CP.17 makes explicit, the forum is tasked, as a part of its work programme, to discuss the substance of all of these decisions, including the Bali Action Plan (decision 1/CP.13). All discussions related to the impact of the implementation of response measures, including those that derive from the Bali Action Plan and initially discussed under the AWG-LCA, as well as those relating to the Kyoto Protocol, have found their new home under the forum and its work programme.

12. The EU is of the view that Parties who wish to raise issues relating to the impact of the implementation of response measures deriving from provisions of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, as well as from COP and CMP decisions on the subject should do so within the forum. This will allow discussions to continue to be well-arranged and well-structured.

On area (h) – Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society

13. There is a general consensus on the need for all countries around the globe to undertake a global transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society – which encompasses a society’s economy – in order to tackle climate change.

14. In decision 1/CP.16, Parties for the first time recognised that deep cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions are required according to science, and as documented in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, with a view to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions so as to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and that Parties should take urgent action to meet this long-term goal, consistent with science and on the basis of equity.

15. Building on this important common objective, Parties in decision 1/CP.17 decided to launch a process (the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action) which is, inter alia, tasked to raise the level of ambition by all Parties in effecting this transition.

16. The transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society presents a major opportunity for all countries to follow a clean development path and implement sustainable policies while addressing climate change. This transition will have important co-benefits for health, employment and economic development. At the same time, the EU recognises that some countries may have concerns over challenges posed to their economies and societies by such a transition. It is therefore important that Parties share experiences and learn from each other so that the necessary transition can be efficiently and effectively implemented.

17. The EU is currently developing policies and strategies for the transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society. Instruments already in place include the “climate and energy package”, containing targets for emission reductions, renewable energy and energy efficiency until 2020, and the “Europe 2020” strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. In addition, the European Commission has presented a “Roadmap for moving to a competitive low-carbon economy in 2050”, and a new “Energy Roadmap 2050”. More information on these policies is available at http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/package/index_en.htm, http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/roadmap/index_en.htm and http://ec.europa.eu/energy/energy2020/roadmap/index_en.htm.

18. We would welcome more detailed and more structured information from other Parties on how they are effecting their economic and social transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society. To this end, we would encourage all Parties to provide timely and regular information and to share their experiences with others. As already mentioned previously, we believe that meetings of the forum should be used as a platform for sharing information and expertise in an interactive manner. This includes information and expertise on the necessary transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting economy.

Conclusion

19. The EU looks forward to participating in the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures to be held at the thirty-seventh sessions of the SBI and the SBSTA and hopes that it will be used to efficiently and effectively facilitate discussions on this important topic.

SUBMISSION BY SAUDI ARABIA

Submission of views on Area (a) - Sharing information and expertise, including reporting and prompting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the above specific thematic area of the work program of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

The forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures a dedicated platform for interaction to develop ideas and joint action. The new forum will improve understanding of this important issue to the developing countries and assist them in understanding the scope of the adverse impacts associated with climate change mitigation actions. Saudi Arabia looks forward to continuing to build on these efforts and believes that all Parties should utilize this platform as means to avoid or at the very least minimize those impacts in the developing countries.

The mission of the forum is to enhance understanding of the social and economic impacts of the implementation of response measures through stimulating research activities in a structured manner that will include collaborative efforts to facilitate understanding of such impacts, with a view to minimizing the adverse consequences of those impacts on developing countries.

We expect the forum to fully engage stakeholders in concrete and in-depth discussions on sharing information and expertise, including reporting and prompting understanding of the impacts of response measures, and bring forward common views and issues to the attention of the Subsidiary Bodies.

The above thematic area should examine the impacts of the mitigation policies on different economic sectors and social groups; explore current reporting methodologies and data, lessons learned, gaps and uncertainties in assessment approaches at different levels, and existing relevant work and literature. The session should further explore alternative policies and implementation approaches that have lower negative impacts on developing countries while achieving the desired mitigation target at the same or lesser cost for the abating coalition; as well as complementary/additional policies that avoid/minimize any potential and actual consequences of climate change mitigation actions on developing countries. Further, the session should also discuss adaptive initiatives to assist the developing countries cope with the unavoidable adverse effects of the mitigation actions, including measures to boost economic diversification efforts. We expect the discussions to provoke thoughts to explore optimum ways of moving forward.

Parties and relevant organizations and other stakeholders are encouraged to share their views on exploring and considering establishing a set of possible approaches and potential mechanisms, including an international mechanism, for managing and reducing social and economic risks of response measures and improving short-term and long-term resilience, with a view to making recommendations to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

SUBMISSION BY SAUDI ARABIA

Submission of views on Area (f) – Relevant aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13, and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the above specific thematic area of the work program of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

The forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures is a dedicated platform for interaction to develop ideas and joint action. The new forum will improve understanding of this important issue to the developing countries and assist them in understanding the scope of the adverse impacts associated with climate change mitigation actions. Saudi Arabia looks forward to continuing to build on these efforts and believes that all Parties should utilize this platform as means to avoid or at the very least minimize those impacts on the developing countries. We expect the forum to fully engage stakeholders in concrete and in-depth discussions on sharing information and expertise, including reporting and prompting understanding of the impacts of response measures, and bring forward common views and issues to the attention of the Subsidiary Bodies.

We wish to emphasize at the beginning that it is very important not to mix Convention decisions with articles of the Kyoto Protocol. As such, our view below are presented in two parts; the first part is around Convention Decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13, and 1/CP.16, and the second part is on Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.

The guiding principles for discussing the above thematic area will be Article 4, paragraph 8 and 9, of the Convention, and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.

Decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13, and 1/CP.16

Decision 1/CP.10 highlights the need for Annex II Parties to report and provide detailed information, including in their national communications, on progress made on support programs to meet the specific needs and circumstances of developing country Parties arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures. However, there has been no progress on the implementation of this Decision and this goal was never realized because the decision remains unfulfilled. Therefore, the above thematic area should explore current reporting methodologies and data, the development of new templates, best practices and lessons learned, gaps and

uncertainties in reporting approaches at different levels, and means to improve the reporting methodologies.

Decision 1/CP.13 identified *Economic and Social Consequences of Response Measures* as one component of the *Mitigation* building block of Bali Action Plan, and, hence, became part of the dialogue under the AWG-LCA track (of Bali Road Map). This is an on-going dialogue that is still taking place under the AWG-LCA, and therefore, we believe that the forum should not undermine that process through refraining to bringing those debates into the Forum.

Decision 1/CP.16 highlighted the need to cooperate fully to enhance understanding of the economic and social consequences of response measures, which we believe this Forum should continue to embark seeking. Parties and relevant organizations and other stakeholders are encouraged to bring their views on exploring and considering establishing a set of possible approaches and potential mechanisms for managing and reducing social and economic risks of response measures and improving short-term and long-term resilience, with a view to making recommendations to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol

Articles 2.3 and 3.14 of Kyoto Protocol irrevocably entrust Annex I Parties with the responsibility to minimize the adverse social, environmental and economic impacts on developing country Parties, particularly those countries identified in Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention. The Articles further explicitly call for the establishment of funding, insurance and transfer of technology to help minimize such adverse impacts so that these measures would not harm developing countries.

Evaluation:

The above thematic area should examine progress of compliance with Articles 2.3 and 3.14. As part of the developed countries' obligations and commitments to minimize the impacts of any policies and measures they take on the developing countries' vulnerable economies, the developed countries would need to provide details regularly and demonstrate how they are implementing their Article 2.3 and 3.14 commitments. The developing countries that are heavily reliant on fossil fuels exports would like to ensure that those response measures can be implemented without compromising their economic growth.

We remain concerned about the lack of a comprehensive framework to assess progress of compliance with Articles 2.3 and 3.14. As such, we believe it is quite important to establish a **process** for this purpose in order to ensure and monitor the compliance, and in particular the

provisions set out in Article 3.14. Such a process would need to establish tools and methodologies for the three levels of the Article's provisions, namely; the assessment of impacts from response measures; assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed as well as the implemented response measures; and assessment of availability, effectiveness and adequacy of funding, insurance and technology transfer arrangements to minimize these impacts.

Implementation:

Saudi Arabia emphasizes that any discussion on specific sectors and/or trade policies should be guided by Article 2, paragraph 3. We also believe that priority actions to comply with Article 3.14 should include the following items:

- The progressive reduction or phasing out of market imperfections, fiscal incentives, tax and duty exemptions and subsidies in all greenhouse gas emitting sectors.
- Removal of subsidies associated with environmentally unsound and unsafe technologies.
- Cooperation and support in the technological development of non-energy uses of fossil fuels; and in the development, diffusion and transfer of less GHG advanced fossil fuels technologies.
- Strengthen developing countries capacity to improve efficiency in upstream and downstream activities relating to fossil fuels.
- Assist developing countries that are highly dependent on the export and consumption of fossil fuels in strengthening resilience and diversifying their economies.

SUBMISSION BY SAUDI ARABIA

Submission of views on Area (h) – Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society

Saudi Arabia welcomes the opportunity to submit its views on the above specific thematic area of the work program of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures.

The forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures is a dedicated platform for interaction to develop ideas and joint action. The new forum will improve understanding of this important issue to the developing countries and assist them in understanding the scope of the adverse impacts associated with climate change mitigation actions. Saudi Arabia looks forward to continuing to build on these efforts and believes that all Parties should utilize this platform as means to avoid or at the very least minimize those impacts in developing countries. We expect the forum to fully engage stakeholders in concrete and in-depth discussions on sharing information and expertise, including reporting and prompting understanding of the impacts of response measures, and bring forward common views and issues to the attention of the Subsidiary Bodies.

Guiding Principles:

The right to development; the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities; and the sovereign right of States over their natural resources; and avoiding adverse impacts on developing countries should be the guiding principles in the discussion of the above thematic area. For developing countries, eradicating poverty remains the overarching challenge and the top priority objective to achieve sustainable economic growth.

Evaluation / Analysis:

Firstly, a further evaluation and common understanding of the above new concept: '*transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society*', will need to be established based on practical realities, particularly regarding implementation, while taking into account its potential consequences, especially for developing countries. This concept shall build on the differentiation between countries included in Annex I of the Convention and those that are not.

In doing so, it is necessary to set realistic objectives for sustainability in that any commitment or effort, particularly with respect to developing countries, should be based on national circumstances and realities, be affordable and practically implementable. There is a need to consider the full set of energy technologies, including advanced fossil fuel technologies, and their impact in terms of development and the environment, based on the circumstances and existing natural resource base of individual countries. Technology dissemination and capacity building

should be based on national priorities and should include the promotion of heightened awareness, investment and infrastructure development, as well as education and training.

8 October 2012

**Forum and Work Program on the Impact of the Implementation of Response Measures
Submission of the United States of America**

Following the 35th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies in Durban, South Africa, the COP adopted a work program on the impact of the implementation of response measures with the objective of improving understanding in several specified areas. During the first meeting of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures at the 36th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, Germany, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Assistance (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) agreed to implement the work program, as contained in an annex to FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.18 and FCCC/SBI/2012/L.25. The aforementioned annex calls for submissions from Parties and relevant organizations with respect to the “areas” listed in the work program. It specifically calls for submissions in advance of the 37th session of the Subsidiary Bodies for the following three areas:

- 1. Sharing of Information and Expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures (area (a));**
- 2. Relevant aspects related to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3 and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol (areas (f)); and**
- 3. Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society (area (h)).**

The COP has noted that the modalities for the operationalization of the work program could include, as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources, convening workshops and meetings; receiving input from experts, practitioners and relevant organizations; and preparing reports and technical papers. The COP further noted that the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures was created to implement the work program and to provide a platform allowing Parties to share, in an interactive manner, information, experiences, case studies, best practices and views.

The United States’ views with respect to the three areas listed above are contained in the remainder of this submission. Given the agreed modalities laid out by the COP, we have focused our comments on the types of organizations, agencies, and individuals that we believe should be included in the discussions of these areas and that we feel would contribute to an effective, comprehensive dialogue on these issues. The United States does not feel at this time that it is necessary to prepare additional reports or technical papers beyond those already agreed in the annex. As the areas of the work program are quite broad, however, we have suggested potential areas of focus for the in-sector workshops. We believe that the structure for the in-session

workshops should be a short series of presentations followed by a question and answer session with the presenters, and then a general discussion among the Parties.

Sharing of Information and Expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures (area (a))

The United States believes that the sharing of information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures will constitute an important element of our work going forward in this area.

The United States suggests that the Secretariat invite Parties or organizations with specific case studies relating to the positive and negative impacts of response measures to present their research during the in-session workshop. In particular, we suggest that the Secretariat invite organizations that have studied the positive economic and social impacts of response measures to give presentations. Learning more about the positive impacts of response measures will be critical if we are to ensure that considerations of the negative impacts of response measures are put in their proper context.

The United States views several categories which the Parties could focus on as we more closely consider and take into account the positive impacts of response measures, including health benefits, economic benefits, and environmental co-benefits. The United States suggests that organizations and/or government agencies, such as the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Meteorological Society, and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration be invited to participate. There are comparable organizations in many countries in the world, as well as at the international level that could be invited to present. Useful research is also being undertaken on these issues at many universities, public and private research laboratories, and other non-governmental organizations. We suggest that these types of organizations should also be invited to participate and present their findings with respect to the positive impacts of the implementation of response measures to climate change.

Relevant aspects related to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3 and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol (areas (f))

Area (f) was incorporated into the work program in order to ensure that no issues related to response measures were omitted from further work unintentionally as a result of the consolidation of all discussions related to response measures, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17. The United States was happy to include this area in the work program in order to satisfy concerns that this may have been the case. Given time to review the various elements contained in the decisions listed in area (f), however, we have not found any relevant aspect of the aforementioned decisions that we believe requires additional discussion, beyond that which is already called for in the work program.

In our view, all aspects of these decisions have been adequately incorporated into the work program or are already being dealt with elsewhere.

One issue which may receive special attention during our discussions at the next meeting of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures is Decision 1/CP.10. The United States welcomed the agreement at the 36th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies to refrain from holding separate discussions on this issue. Decision 2/CP.17 clearly consolidated all discussions related to response measures under the forum, and all 1/CP.10 work on adaptation is being fully addressed under other agenda items. The United States greatly supports those adaptation discussions and is committed to making progress under those items. In order to be efficient in the work of the Subsidiary Bodies, therefore, the United States would recommend that the Parties have a conversation about the closure of 1/CP.10 in the near future, either under the 1/CP.10 agenda item or as a part of a larger conversation about the organization or our work under the Subsidiary Bodies. Due to the crowded agenda for COP 18, we would suggest that we continue to hold 1/CP.10 in abeyance in Doha, and take up the issue of closure at the following session.

Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas (GHG) emitting society (area (h))

The United States believes that the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures can be particularly helpful in this area. We believe that one focus of the dialogue with respect to area (h) should be on the use of education to help societies build collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society. In the United States, we have many examples of ways in which we are using educational programs and activities to further our GHG reduction efforts, starting from the grade school level and going up. We suggest that the leaders of teacher training programs like those conducted in the United States at U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories, or educational challenges, like the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon, should be invited to present on their efforts. Other countries surely have equivalent efforts that would also serve as great case studies. Speakers should be chosen that can provide examples of activities that build replicable models that fill local needs while also addressing GHGs.

Another focus of the dialogue with respect to area (h) should be on preparing workers to transition to a low-GHG emitting society. In the United States, Department of Labor programs provide employment assistance and job training to individuals transitioning into jobs associated with a more sustainable economy. The Department of Energy's "Better Buildings Initiative" focuses on job opportunities related to building sustainable commercial buildings, improving federal and local policies, and enhancing access to information, financing, and tax incentives for sustainable buildings. Other countries will be able to provide more examples. We suggest that the leaders of programs like these be invited to present during the next meeting of the forum.

Conclusion

We hope that the Parties and the Secretariat find our comments useful in preparation for the second meeting of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures. The United States looks forward to hearing the views of other Parties and engaging in a productive discussion.
