

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

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NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

(Agenda item 4 (b))

Draft conclusions by the Chairman

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) took note of the activities of the secretariat to facilitate technical and financial support for the preparation of national communications to non-Annex I Parties.
2. The SBI also took note of the views expressed by Parties on the preparation and consideration of communications from non-Annex I Parties and of the two draft decisions attached to this document on the consideration of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
3. The SBI invited Parties to submit further views on these matters by 8 September 1997 and requested the secretariat to compile these submissions. These will be made available at the next session of the SBI to facilitate consideration of a draft decision for submission to COP 3.

Annex

Draft Proposal by the Group of 77 and China Consideration of Initial Communications from Parties not Included in Annex I to the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 12.1, 12.5, and 12.7 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recalling also its decisions 8/CP.1 and 10/CP.2 on first communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention,

Noting that each developing country Party shall make its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3 and that Parties that are least developed may make their submission at their discretion,

Recognizing that the initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I of the Convention shall be submitted in a staggered manner because of the different timing of the provision of funding from the interim financial mechanism,

Recognizing further that the initial communications from Parties not included in the Annex I of the Convention shall be considered on overall and aggregate basis in accordance with Article 10.2 (a).

1. *Decides* that the Conference of the Parties,
 - (a) Shall consider the overall aggregate effects of measures taken pursuant to the Convention, in accordance with Article 10.2 (a), taking into account Article 4.7 and information communicated under Article 12.3;
 - (b) Shall compile a list of projects for financing submitted by Parties not included in the Annex I of the Convention in accordance with Article 12.4;
 - (c) Shall seek funding from the financial mechanism in accordance with policy guidance, programme priorities and eligibility criteria provided under Decision 11/CP.1 and the guidance provided in Decision 11/CP.2, based on the list of projects submitted;
 - (d) Shall consider the communications from Parties not included in Annex I in a facilitative, non-confrontational, open, and transparent manner.

2. *Decides* also that the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,
 - (a) Shall conduct consideration of initial communications from non-Annex I Parties, on an annual or biennial basis, depending on the submission received in any particular year;
 - (b) Shall submit a synthesis report to the Conference of the Parties updating the overall aggregate effects of measures taken pursuant to the Convention, in accordance with Article 10.2 (a).
3. *Decides* further that the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice conduct scientific assessments of the overall aggregate effects of measures taken in accordance with Article 9.2 (b).
4. *Requests* the secretariat,
 - (a) Drawing on the experience on the overall aggregate compilation of initial communications of Parties not included in Annex I, to prepare a report on the guidelines for the preparation of initial communications with a view, among other things, to further enhancing the comparability and focus of the communications;
 - (b) To provide any other assistance that may be required by non-Annex I Parties for the periodic preparation of national communications, in accordance with Article 8.2 (c).

Draft Proposal by the United States of America
for a Decision on the Process for Consideration of Initial Communications
from Parties not included in Annex I

Recalling Articles 4.1, 7.2, 9.2 (b), (c), (d), 10.2(a), 12.1, 12.5, 12.7 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

Recalling also its Decisions 7/C.1, 3/C.2, 8/C.2, 10/C.2 and 11/C.2;

Recalling in particular, Article 12.5 which provides that each developing country Party shall make its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3 and that Parties that are least developed may make their submission at their discretion;

Noting that the frequency of subsequent communications by all Parties, and the timing of the process of consideration of national communications will need to be determined by the Conference of the Parties, taking into account the differentiated timetable for the submission of national communications of Parties not included in Annex I;

Bearing in mind the importance of timely technical and financial support for the preparation of national communications;

1. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to expedite approval and disbursement of financial resources for the preparation of initial communications.
2. *Decides*:
 - (a) That the information contained in initial communications of Parties not included in Annex I will be considered in a facilitative, non-confrontational and transparent manner to ensure that the Conference of Parties has accurate, consistent and relevant information:
 - (i) To assess the implementation of the Convention by the Parties and the overall effects of measures taken pursuant to the Convention;
 - (ii) To facilitate implementation of commitments under Article 4.1;
 - (iii) To promote and facilitate the exchange of information on Parties' experience in implementing commitments;
 - (iv) To promote and guide the development and refinement of methodologies and guidelines to enhance the accuracy, completeness and comparability of Parties' national communications;

- (v) To arrange for the provision of technical and financial support to developing country Parties in preparing national communications and in identifying the technical and financial needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4; and
 - (vi) To provide appropriate guidance to the Global Environment Facility on programme priorities and operational policies.
- (b) That the consideration of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I will include the following tasks:
- (i) Assess quantitative and qualitative information for consistency with applicable guidelines adopted by Parties;
 - (ii) Assess the overall aggregated effects of steps taken to implement the Convention;
 - (iii) Identify the informational, technical and financial needs of Parties not included in Annex I related to implementation of commitments; and in particular those associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4;
 - (iv) Describe progress in implementation of the Convention;
 - (v) Aggregate information contained in national communications;
 - (vi) Prepare a report on the application of guidelines for the preparation of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I with a view to further enhancing the accuracy, completeness, comparability and focus of national communications.

3. *Requests* the secretariat:

- (a) To facilitate the provision of assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national communications;
- (b) To coordinate and facilitate the consideration of national communications of Parties not included in Annex I;
- (c) To select, under the guidance of the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies, the experts from names nominated by Parties to assist in this consideration process;
- (d) To compile and synthesize information contained in individual national communications part of the annual report on implementation;
- (e) To compile and make available to Parties, a compendium of projects and related information submitted by Parties not included in Annex I in accordance with Article 12.4;

(f) To arrange and host regional workshop to provide for expert discussion of information contained in national communications, with a view to identifying and overcoming barriers to implementation, and identifying additional information and resource needs and means to address them;

(g) To note instances where in-country expert visits would be beneficial to promote greater understanding of a Party's specific national circumstances, inventory data or efforts to respond to climate change; and

(h) Upon request by a Party, to arrange for voluntary, in-country, expert visits for individual consideration of national communications.

4. *Invites* Parties to nominate experts to assist in the consideration of national communications.
5. *Urges* Parties not included in Annex I of the Convention to submit their first national communications as soon as possible.