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Agenda item 6

Article 6 of the Convention

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair of the contact group
on agenda item 6**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) took note of the conclusions of the African regional workshop on Article 6 of the Convention and encouraged Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) and Parties not included in Annex I of the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) to cooperate in following up on the key issues identified at the workshop, including:
 - (a) Facilitating cooperation and supporting the sharing of resources, at subregional, regional and international levels, for education, training and public awareness
 - (b) Improving the dissemination and distribution of climate change information to the public by enhancing the relationship between governments, the public, and the media
 - (c) Facilitating awareness raising and capacity-building within African countries, building on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and other initiatives, with the support of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2. The SBI recalled that the Conference of the Parties (COP), by its decision 11/CP.8, decided to undertake a review of the New Delhi work programme in 2007, with an intermediate review of progress in 2004. The SBI requested the secretariat to prepare an intermediate review report on progress achieved by Parties in implementing Article 6 of the Convention, based on information contained in national communications and other information received by the secretariat by 15 August 2004. The report by the secretariat will be considered by the SBI at its twenty-first session, and will form the basis for a draft decision to be forwarded to the COP for adoption at its tenth session.
3. The SBI also encouraged IGOs and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to communicate to the secretariat, by 15 September 2004, their programmatic responses to the New Delhi work programme

and to provide information on progress achieved in supporting its implementation, as part of the interim review process. It requested the secretariat to make this information available to the SBI at its twenty-first session.

4. The SBI invited Parties to designate a national focal point for Article 6 activities and to inform the secretariat accordingly. It recognized that the functioning of such a focal point would, depending on national circumstances, benefit from strengthening of national institutions and capacities.

5. The SBI further noted that decision 4/CP.9 requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as the entity responsible for operating the financial mechanism of the Convention, to “continue its support for education, training and public awareness activities relating to climate change”. The SBI encouraged non-Annex I Parties to take this into account when submitting to the GEF their projects relating to their national communications, to promote the implementation of Article 6. It requested the secretariat to collaborate with the GEF secretariat to ensure the dissemination of information on the availability of such support.

6. The SBI welcomed the work of the secretariat on the development of the small-scale model of the Article 6 information network clearing house. It requested the secretariat to continue its work taking into account views expressed at the twentieth session of the SBI (see the annex to this document), and in consultation with interested Parties. It also requested the secretariat to report to the SBI at its twenty-first session on the progress of work including:

- (a) Detailed technical specifications for the development and implementation of the clearing house
- (b) A profile for an institutional home for the clearing house highlighting relevant competences and expertise
- (c) A tentative time frame for implementation
- (d) Options, and their estimated financial implications, for the development and implementation of the clearing house.

7. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Government of France for its financial contribution to the development of the clearing house project, and invited other Parties in a position to do so to consider funding the further development and implementation of the clearing house.

8. The SBI noted that regional workshops were essential to advance the implementation of Article 6 activities, and that reports of these workshops shall be an important contribution to the review of the New Delhi work programme in 2007. It invited Parties and others in a position to do so to contribute to financing the remaining workshops addressing the needs of Asia, Latin America and the members of the Alliance of Small Island States, at the earliest opportunity.

9. The SBI expressed its gratitude to UNEP for its offer to contribute to the organization of the Asian regional workshop, and expressed its appreciation for the evolving role UNEP is taking in supporting the implementation of Article 6 and the New Delhi work programme.

Annex**Consolidated views of Parties and guidance to the secretariat on the further development of the Article 6 information network clearing house**

1. The small-scale model of the clearing house presented by the secretariat is considered to be a good start and should serve as a basis for further work. The model was developed on the basis of the original proposal (FCCC/SBI/2003/4) and input provided by the interim informal advisory group.
2. The development of the clearing house should follow a two-phase implementation process that is realistic and economical.
3. Phase one should:
 - (a) Target Parties but be accessible to the general public;
 - (b) Focus on the education and public awareness components of Article 6 of the Convention;
 - (c) Utilize links to web pages relevant to Article 6 as a principal source of information;
 - (d) Facilitate contributions from, and dissemination of relevant information to, the target audience;
 - (e) Explore and use nodes to provide and exchange information from regional, subregional and national entities;
 - (f) Contain a welcome page clarifying what the site seeks to deliver;
 - (g) Assess the effectiveness of the clearing house on an ongoing basis, including the role and workload of nodes and Article 6 focal points, and quality control;
 - (h) Recognize that Parties consider “feedback/statistics”, “search” and “forum” as important features;
 - (i) Continue to draw on experience with TT:CLEAR, in particular regarding the interconnectivity of the search engine and partner site databases;
 - (j) Seek options whereby entities with limited web access can contribute to and draw from the clearing house.
4. Following the assessment of phase one in 2007 or before, a second phase should be considered with a view to broadening the scope and target audience of the clearing house.
