



**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Eleventh session
Montreal, 28 November to 9 December 2005**

**Agenda item 12 (a)
Conclusion of the session
Adoption of the report of the Conference on its eleventh session**

Draft report of the Conference of the Parties on its eleventh session

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Part One: Proceedings

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AT ITS ELEVENTH SESSION

[to be completed]

I. Opening of the session

(Agenda items 1 and 2 (a))

1. The eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP), convened pursuant to Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Convention,¹ was opened at the Palais des congrès de Montréal, Montreal, Canada, on 28 November 2005, by Mr. Ginés González García, Minister of Health and Environment of Argentina, President of the COP at its tenth session.

2. Following the opening, the President recalled the passing away, on 14 October 2005, of the former Executive Secretary, Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter, who had led the secretariat since May 2002. In honour of her memory, the President invited all delegates to observe a minute of silence.

A. Host Government welcoming ceremony

3. The formal opening was preceded by a welcoming ceremony organized by the Government of Canada to mark the opening of the eleventh session of the COP and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP). At the ceremony Mr. Gérald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, and Mr. Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec, addressed the delegates.

4. Welcoming all participants, the Premier of Quebec, underlined the commitment of the Government of Quebec to actively contribute to achieving the objective of the Convention. Following the negotiations culminating in the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol, the Government of Quebec had initiated a plan of action for the period 2000–2002, aiming to further reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to level out the upward curve of emissions relating to the transport sector. In 2001, Quebec had acceded to the climate change action plan of the Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers, whose aim was to cut regional GHG emissions by 10 per cent by 2020. The province also played a leading role in promoting clean energy, such as wind energy and hydroelectricity, with the latter accounting for over 90 per cent of the province's electrical output. Referring to the Climate Leaders Summit of heads of government of federal states and regions and heads of major corporations from around the world, co-hosted by the Government of Quebec on 5 and 6 December 2005, the Premier stressed the importance of involving actors at federal, regional and business levels.

5. In his address of welcome, the Mayor of Montreal, underlined the crucial role that cities played in combatting climate change. More than half of the world's population now lived in urban areas and their lifestyles and consumption patterns had a major impact on the environment. Given the challenges that cities faced in reconciling economic, social and environmental needs, he called upon governments to support the efforts undertaken at the municipal level. Committed to promote the objectives of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, the City of Montreal had recently undertaken various measures, including the adoption of a resolution to reduce GHG emissions by 20 per cent by 2012. In conclusion, the Mayor underlined that every small gesture counted and called upon citizens to do their part to reduce GHG emissions.

6. Following the addresses of welcome, delegates saw a dramatic multimedia production reflecting on the impact of human actions on the environment, performed by Canadian artists.

¹ The COP was held in conjunction with the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP). The proceedings of the COP/MOP are contained in a separate report. Joint elements such as the welcoming ceremony and proceedings of the joint meetings of the COP and the COP/MOP convened during the high-level segment of the sessions are reproduced in both reports.

B. Statement by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session

7. Recalling the tireless dedication and enthusiasm of the late Executive Secretary, the President of the COP at its tenth session said that the best tribute that delegates could pay to her work was to redouble their efforts to reach consensus and make further progress in combatting global warming. The world had a solid and broad scientific basis on which to take immediate action to eliminate the causes of climate change and prepare for its inevitable effects. The absence of full certainty regarding some of its aspects was no reason to delay action.

8. An international programme of action which was both equitable and efficient required that the world's biggest economies accepted their responsibility and undertook effective measures to substantially reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs). While each country had different visions, interests and priorities, it was essential that all Parties maintained a constructive dialogue leading to consensus and effective decisions. Fundamental values such as democracy, security, economic growth and equity might be in peril in the future if the foundations of human life, the environment and the climate system, were damaged irreversibly. The way forward towards a shared and sustainable future was to ensure that the burden of mitigation was borne according to each country's responsibility and that the necessary resources were shared so that all countries were prepared to face the effects of climate change. Those affected disproportionately were the poorest countries, especially developing countries, who had the least capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change and bore no responsibility for its root causes. Developing countries were hoping that industrialized nations would meet their obligations. The Buenos Aires programme of work on adaptation and response measures had to be rendered effective and provided with sufficient resources.

9. The seminar of governmental experts which was held in Bonn, Germany, in May 2005 had shown that it was possible to maintain a creative and open dialogue about the future. The basis for such dialogue had to be broadened and consolidated by involving relevant actors at all levels, including governments, businesses and civil society.

C. Election of the President of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session (Agenda item 2 (a))

10. At its 1st meeting,² on 28 November, on the proposal of the outgoing President, the COP elected by acclamation Mr. Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment of Canada, as its President. The outgoing President congratulated Mr. Dion on his election and wished him every success in guiding the work of the COP at its eleventh session.

D. Statement by the President

11. On assuming office, the President thanked his predecessor for the work undertaken under his leadership. There was now growing awareness that climate change constituted the single most important environmental issue facing the world in this century. The scientific evidence on climate change which the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and others had compiled was more compelling than ever. That evidence had led to a broad consensus that more action was required now, and citizens around the world therefore expected the COP to make real progress.

12. The Convention remained the cornerstone of international efforts to combat climate change. It had formed the foundation for important steps taken over the past five years, including the elaboration of the Kyoto rule book in the Marrakesh Accords; the enhanced focus on adaptation, technology transfer and sustainable development encapsulated in the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development; the Buenos Aires programme of work on adaptation and response measures;

² Meetings of the Conference of the Parties referred to in this report are plenary meetings.

and the seminar of governmental experts, also agreed upon in Buenos Aires. More recently, at the 2005 United Nations World Summit, world leaders had reiterated the importance of international efforts to combat climate change. They had acknowledged that the global nature of climate change called for the widest possible cooperation and participation in order to agree on an appropriate and effective international response in accordance with the principles of the Convention.

13. Based on the consultations the President had undertaken in preparation for the COP, he suggested that the objectives of the COP and of the COP/MOP, to be held in parallel, might be summarized in three key notions: implementation, improvement and innovation. Implementation referred to the need to make the Kyoto Protocol fully operational and render it an effective tool for curbing emissions. At the same time, there was room for improvement in several key areas of operationalization of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. Thus, the clean development mechanism should be strengthened, and measures on adaptation and the transfer and development of technologies had to be enhanced. Finally, innovative thinking was required in looking beyond the first commitment period of the Protocol and in exploring options for future international cooperation on climate change that reflected the full range of interests of Parties while bearing in mind the ultimate objective of the Convention.

E. Statement by the Officer-in-Charge of the secretariat

14. The Officer-in-Charge of the secretariat extended his thanks to the Government of Canada for hosting the COP and expressed his appreciation that it had made special efforts to render this event climate-neutral. He congratulated Mr. Stéphane Dion on his election as President and thanked Mr. Ginés González García for his able presidency of the COP at its tenth session. The Buenos Aires conference had produced important results, in particular the programme of work on adaptation and response measures, and the seminar of governmental experts held in Bonn in May 2005.

15. The Officer-in-Charge noted that 2005 had emerged as a remarkable year for international climate change policy. The entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol had launched a new phase in international efforts to protect the global climate. International business leaders at the World Economic Forum had identified climate change as one of the three most critical issues facing the world, and world leaders at the United Nations World Summit had placed climate change at the top of the political agenda, reconfirming their commitment to action under the Convention. Those signals provided guidance and a strong positive momentum upon which to build and thereby to close 2005 with a major achievement in Montreal.

16. Highlighting recent developments, the Officer-in-Charge said that 127 Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) had now submitted their initial national communications. Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) were to submit their fourth national communications by 1 January 2006. A new publication, *Key GHG data*, had been issued covering emissions from 40 Annex I and 121 non-Annex I Parties. The data confirmed that additional actions were clearly required to curb emissions. It was essential to step up action on technology, including investment in new technologies, such as carbon capture, and technology transfer. There was an urgent need for adaptation. The adoption of the five-year programme of work of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) had to be one of the highest priorities for the COP. It would also be important for the COP to finalize guidance on the Special Climate Change Fund in order to provide developing countries with additional support to build capacity for adaptation and for limiting the growth of their GHG emissions.

F. Other statements

17. At the 1st meeting, on 28 November, general statements were made by the representatives of Jamaica (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of the European Community and its member States and in association with three other Parties), Kenya (on behalf of the African Group), Bangladesh (on behalf of the least developed countries), Australia (on behalf of members of the Umbrella Group), Venezuela (on behalf of the Andean countries), and Switzerland (on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group).

II. Organizational matters

(Agenda item 2)

A. Status of ratification of the Convention

(Agenda item 2 (b))

18. At its 1st meeting, on 28 November, the COP was informed that, as at that date, the number of Parties to the Convention totalled 189. All of those Parties were eligible to participate in decision-making at the session.

B. Adoption of the rules of procedure

(Agenda item 2 (c))

19. At the 1st meeting, on 28 November, the President informed the COP that the President of the COP at its tenth session had undertaken consultations with Parties on the draft rules of procedure but that no consensus had been reached.

20. On the proposal of the President, the COP decided that, in the meantime, as at previous sessions, the draft rules of procedure as contained in document FCCC/CP/1996/2 should continue to be applied, with the exception of draft rule 42. The President announced that he would report back to the COP in the event of any new developments in this matter.

C. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 2 (d))

21. For its consideration of this sub-item at its 1st meeting, on 28 November, the COP had before it a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/CP/2005/1). The provisional agenda had been prepared in agreement with the President of the COP at its tenth session, taking into account views expressed by Parties during the twenty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and by members of the Bureau of the COP.

22. The President recalled that item 5, "Second review of the adequacy of Article 4, paragraph 2 (a) and (b), of the Convention", which had been held in abeyance at the tenth session, was included in the provisional agenda in accordance with rules 10 (c) and 16 of the draft rules of procedure being applied. The President of the COP at its tenth session had consulted with Parties on this item but no consensus had been reached on how to include it in the agenda. He therefore proposed that the agenda be adopted as contained in document FCCC/CP/2005/1, with the exception of item 5, which would be held in abeyance. He said that he would consider how to deal with this item and report back at a future meeting.

23. Following the proposal of the President, the COP adopted the agenda as follows:

1. Opening of the session
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Election of the President of the Conference at its eleventh session

- (b) Status of ratification of the Convention
 - (c) Adoption of the rules of procedure
 - (d) Adoption of the agenda
 - (e) Election of officers other than the President
 - (f) Admission of organizations as observers
 - (g) Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies
 - (h) Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties
 - (i) Calendar of meetings of Convention bodies, 2006–2010
 - (j) Adoption of the report on credentials
3. Reports of the subsidiary bodies and decisions and conclusions arising therefrom:
- (a) Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
 - (b) Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation
4. Review of implementation of commitments and of other provisions of the Convention:
- (a) Financial mechanism of the Convention
 - (b) National communications:
 - (i) National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention
 - (ii) National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
 - (c) Development and transfer of technologies
 - (d) Capacity-building under the Convention
 - (e) Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention:
 - (i) Implementation of the Buenos Aires programme of work on adaptation and response measures (decision 1/CP.10)
 - (ii) Matters relating to the least developed countries
5. *Agenda item held in abeyance*
6. Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action
7. Administrative, financial and institutional matters:
- (a) Income and budget performance in the biennium 2004–2005
 - (b) Programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007
 - (c) Institutional linkage of the secretariat to the United Nations
 - (d) Internal review of the activities of the secretariat
 - (e) Procedure for the appointment of an Executive Secretary
8. Other matters referred to the Conference of the Parties by the subsidiary bodies
9. High-level segment
10. Statements by observer organizations
11. Other matters
12. Conclusion of the session:
- (a) Adoption of the report of the Conference on its eleventh session
 - (b) Closure of the session.

D. Election of officers other than the President

(Agenda item 2 (e))

24. At the 1st meeting, on 28 November, the President informed the COP that Ms. Marcia Levaggi (Argentina) had undertaken consultations on this matter during the twenty-second sessions of the subsidiary bodies held in May 2005. However, nominations had not yet been received from all regional groups. The President encouraged all Parties concerned to reach agreement on all outstanding Bureau posts in time for the high-level segment, to be held from 7 to 9 December. On a proposal of the President, the COP decided to postpone the election of the Bureau until all nominations were finalized. Ms. Levaggi was invited to continue consultations during the session.

[to be completed]

E. Admission of organizations as observers

(Agenda item 2 (f))

25. At its 1st meeting, on 28 November, the COP considered a note by the secretariat on the admission of organizations as observers (FCCC/CP/2005/2 and Add.1), listing five intergovernmental organizations and 102 non-governmental organizations that had asked to be admitted as observers. Pursuant to Article 7, paragraph 6, of the Convention, and following a recommendation by the Bureau of the COP, which had reviewed the list of applicant organizations, the COP decided to admit those organizations as observers.

26. Emphasizing the importance of the involvement of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the Convention process, the President welcomed the organizations newly admitted to the COP at its eleventh session and invited them to play an active role.

F. Organization of work, including the sessions of the subsidiary bodies

(Agenda item 2 (g))

27. In introducing this sub-item at the 1st meeting, on 28 November, the President drew the attention of the COP to the provisional agenda and annotations contained in document FCCC/CP/2005/1. He noted that the subsidiary bodies would be convened with the aim of developing, before their sessions ended on 6 December, draft decisions and conclusions for submission to the COP.

28. On a proposal by the President, the COP decided to refer items to the subsidiary bodies for consideration and the submission of appropriate draft decisions or conclusions, as follows:

Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI)

- Item 4 (a) Financial mechanism of the Convention
- Item 4 (b)(i) National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention
- Item 4 (b)(ii) National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
- Item 4 (d) Capacity-building under the Convention
- Item 4 (e)(i) Implementation of the Buenos Aires programme of work on adaptation and response measures (decision 1/CP.10)
- Item 4 (e)(ii) Matters relating to the least developed countries
- Item 7 (a) Income and budget performance in the biennium 2004–2005
- Item 7 (c) Institutional linkage of the secretariat to the United Nations

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)

- Item 4 (c) Development and transfer of technologies
Item 4 (e)(i) Implementation of the Buenos Aires programme of work on adaptation and response measures (decision 1/CP.10)

29. Delegates were reminded that the SBI and the SBSTA would consider different aspects of item 4 (e)(i). The SBSTA, pursuant to paragraph 23 of decision 1/CP.10, will address issues relating to the five-year programme of work of the SBSTA on the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The SBI may wish to address issues relating to expert meetings and workshops.

30. With regard to agenda item 2 (h), "Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties", the President noted that no offers had been received and encouraged interested Parties to come forward. He proposed to undertake consultations on this sub-item and to report back to a future meeting.

31. The President further proposed that the COP take up agenda item 6, "Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action" at its meeting scheduled for 30 November. At the same meeting, he would report to the COP on item 7 (e), "Procedure for the appointment of an Executive Secretary", after having undertaken consultations.

32. With regard to agenda item 9, "High-level segment", the President recalled that the SBI at its twenty-second session had endorsed the dates of 7 to 9 December for the high-level segment. The high-level segment would be convened on the understanding that there would be one speakers' list and each Party, including Parties to the Convention that are also Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, would speak only once. No decisions would be taken in the joint meetings. The President, with the endorsement of the Bureau of the COP, proposed a time limit of three minutes for the statements at the high-level segment.

33. Under this item, a statement was made by the representative of one Party.

34. The COP agreed to proceed on the basis of the proposals made by the President.

G. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties
(Agenda item 2 (h))

[to be completed]

H. Calendar of meetings of Convention bodies, 2006–2010
(Agenda item 2 (i))

[to be completed]

I. Adoption of the report on credentials
(Agenda item 2 (j))

[to be completed]

**III. Reports of the subsidiary bodies and decisions
and conclusions arising therefrom**
(Agenda item 3)

[to be completed]

IV. Review of implementation of commitments and of other provisions of the Convention

(Agenda item 4)

[to be completed]

V. [to be completed]

(Agenda item 5)

VI. Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate action

(Agenda item 6)

35. In introducing this item at the 2nd meeting, on 30 November, the President drew the attention of the COP to document FCCC/CP/2005/MISC.1 containing a submission from the Governments of Papua New Guinea and Costa Rica supported by 10 other Parties.

36. On this sub-item, statements were made by representatives of 25 Parties, including representatives speaking on behalf of the Central American countries, the Alliance of Small Island States, the European Community and its member States and in association with three other Parties, the African Group, and the Group of 77 and China.

37. On the proposal of the President, the COP decided to establish a contact group on this item, chaired by Hernán Carlino (Argentina), to prepare draft conclusions or a draft decision for consideration by the COP at a future meeting.

[to be completed]

VII. Administrative, financial and institutional matters

(Agenda item 7)

A. Income and budget performance in the biennium 2004–2005

(Agenda item 7 (a))

[to be completed]

B. Programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007

(Agenda item 7 (b))

[to be completed]

C. Institutional linkage of the secretariat to the United Nations

(Agenda item 7 (c))

[to be completed]

D. Internal review of the activities of the secretariat

(Agenda item 7 (d))

[to be completed]

E. Procedure for the appointment of an Executive Secretary

(Agenda item 7 (e))

38. At the 2nd meeting, on 30 November, the President informed the COP that in relation to this issue the Bureau of the COP had considered a letter from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations which outlined the procedure for the appointment of an Executive Secretary and the selection criteria to be followed. He reminded delegates that a copy of the letter had been sent to all Parties on 18 November 2005.

39. The procedure to be followed was the one now used for all senior appointments in the United Nations. It encouraged nominations by governments and was based on clear selection criteria and a rigorous interview process taking into account geographic distribution and gender considerations.

40. The President said that the Bureau had stated its agreement with both the procedure and the selection criteria as outlined in the letter. Bureau members had also requested him to acknowledge, in writing, receipt of the letter from the Secretary-General's office and to inform the Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General that the Bureau looked forward to being consulted on the individual the Secretary-General proposed to appoint as Executive Secretary, in accordance with decision 14/CP.1.

41. On this agenda item, a statement was made by the representative of one Party.

VIII. Other matters referred to the Conference of the Parties by the subsidiary bodies

(Agenda item 8)

42. At the 1st meeting, on 28 November, the COP, on a proposal by the President, adopted the draft decision entitled "Issues relating to adjustments under Article 5, paragraph 2, of the Kyoto Protocol" (FCCC/SBSTA/2005/4/Add.1).

IX. High-level segment

(Agenda item 9)

[to be completed]

X. Statements by observer organizations

(Agenda item 10)

[to be completed]

XI. Other matters

(Agenda item 11)

[to be completed]

XII. Conclusion of the session

(Agenda item 12)

[to be completed]

Annexes

[to be completed]

PART TWO: ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
AT ITS ELEVENTH SESSION

[to be completed]
