



**Framework Convention on  
Climate Change**

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**Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

**Thirty-fourth session**

**Bonn, 6–16 June 2011**

Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda

**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**

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

**Note by the secretariat\***

**Addendum**

**Report on the workshop to exchange views on possible elements to be  
considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC guidelines for the  
preparation of national communications from Parties not included  
in Annex I to the Convention taking into account the difficulties  
encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their  
most recent national communications**

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\* This document was submitted after the due date in order to include the outcomes of the discussions that took place at the workshop held on 21–23 March 2011, and of those that took place at the fourth meeting of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, held on 24–26 March 2011.

*Summary*

The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention held a workshop to exchange views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”, in St. Mary’s, Antigua and Barbuda, on 21–23 March 2011.

The workshop took into account the difficulties encountered by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in the preparation of their most recent national communications, with presentations by Parties on problems, lessons learned and best practices in overcoming problems in applying the aforementioned guidelines.

This report outlines the proceedings of the workshop, and includes an annex synthesizing the presentations of thematic working groups on the exchange of views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines.

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## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties, by its decision 5/CP.15, reconstituted the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) for the period 2010–2012 to improve the process of and preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties).
2. The CGE developed its work programme for 2010–2012<sup>1</sup> at its first meeting, held in Bonn, Germany, from 29 to 31 March 2010. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its thirty-second session, took note of and welcomed<sup>2</sup> the work programme of the CGE.
3. In accordance with its work programme, the CGE conducted a workshop to exchange views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”<sup>3</sup> (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties), taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications. The workshop also took into account the results of the CGE survey corresponding to paragraph 2(a) and (b) of the terms of reference of the CGE, contained in the annex to decision 5/CP.15.

### B. Scope of the note

4. This report on the proceedings of the CGE workshop includes a summary of the exchange of views and ideas from Parties on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties. Presentations were made by Parties on problems, lessons learned and best practices in applying the guidelines. Background presentations were made by CGE members and the secretariat.
5. The following Parties were represented at the workshop: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, European Union, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Uzbekistan.
6. The secretariat, with the assistance of the International Telecommunications Union, allowed remote participants to take part in the workshop, on a trial basis, in order to maximize the participation of representatives from non-Annex I Parties and to deliver the content of the workshop to those representatives who could not travel to the workshop, as

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<sup>1</sup> Contained in annex I to document FCCC/SBI/2010/INF.2.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2010/10, paragraph 21.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 17/CP.8.

encouraged by the SBI at its thirty-third session.<sup>4</sup> The CGE, with the assistance of the secretariat, will further explore this avenue, subject to the availability of funds.

### **C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

7. The SBI, having considered this report, may wish to provide further guidance to the CGE on the implementation of its mandate relating to paragraph 2(b) of its terms of reference on the provision of recommendations, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications.

## **II. Proceedings of the workshop**

### **A. Opening of the workshop**

8. Mr. Eric Kamoga Mugurusi (United Republic of Tanzania), Chair of the CGE, made introductory remarks, including on the objective of the workshop. He expressed his gratitude to Ms. Sharon Peters, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and the Environment of Antigua and Barbuda, for taking the time to address the meeting. He thanked the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and the Environment, for hosting the workshop, and thanked the members of the CGE for preparing workshop documents.

9. Ms. Peters gave the opening remarks and welcomed the participants to Antigua and Barbuda. She emphasized the great challenge that climate change poses to Antigua and Barbuda, in particular its effects on sea level. She indicated the importance of national communications in providing information on various critical sectors of national economies, and highlighted the need for every country to take action on climate change mitigation and adaptation through well-informed national policies.

### **B. Organization of the work**

10. The Chair outlined the organization of the work, and emphasized that the workshop, as part of the implementation of its work programme for 2011, will help to enable the CGE to fulfil its mandate.

11. The CGE prepared the following background materials to serve as input to the deliberations at the workshop:

(a) A background paper with questions to provide a general framework for discussions, with a summary of the current UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties;

(b) The results of the CGE survey referred to in paragraph 3 above on identifying and assessing the difficulties, challenges and problems encountered by non-Annex I Parties in using the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications;

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<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBI/2010/27, paragraph 29.

(c) A qualitative compilation of lessons learned and good practices for reporting in recently submitted national communications, based on the scope of information provided by Parties according to the description of the type of information contained in “Reporting on climate change: user manual for the guidelines on national communications from non-Annex I Parties”<sup>5</sup> and the CGE survey referred to in paragraph 3 above.

12. The secretariat provided a background document for the workshop containing information extracted from the CGE survey referred to in paragraph 3 above, which was conducted with the aim of identifying technical problems and constraints affecting non-Annex I Parties in the process of preparation of their national communications and assessing capacity-building needs, with reference to paragraph 2(a) and (b) of the CGE terms of reference.

13. CGE members presented information on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines), building on lessons learned for improving the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, and comparing common and different elements of guidelines for non-Annex I Parties and those for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention.

14. The workshop was organized as follows:

(a) Plenary sessions to present experiences and to share best practices and lessons learned in using the current UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, presentation of background materials aimed at facilitating the discussions, and exchange of views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines;

(b) Meetings of thematic working groups to exchange further views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines. Five working groups were formed, and organized as follows, according to participants’ areas of expertise:

- (i) Measures to facilitate adaptation to climate change;
- (ii) National greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories;
- (iii) Measures to mitigate climate change;
- (iv) Constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs;
- (v) Education, training and public awareness, information and networking, research and systematic observation.

(c) Plenary sessions to discuss the outputs of the thematic working group and reflect on the possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties.

## **C. Major discussions and outcomes of the workshop**

### **1. Presentations and discussions on problems, lessons learned and best practices**

15. The secretariat presented the qualitative compilation of lessons learned and good practices for reporting in recently submitted national communications referred to in paragraph 11(c) above.

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<sup>5</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/application/pdf/userman\\_nc.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/application/pdf/userman_nc.pdf)>.

16. The workshop took into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications, and a number of Parties provided information on the key lessons learned when completing their national communications. Parties also shared information on their national climate change priorities, socio-economic scenarios and the relevant driving forces, and on their national institutional arrangements, critical success factors, barriers and constraints.

17. The following Parties shared their experiences and lessons learned at the workshop:

(a) Ghana, Mexico and Singapore gave presentations on their national GHG inventories. The presentations outlined the methodologies used for GHG inventories, including the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, including the use of higher-tier methodologies and national emission factors. The participants also presented an analysis and summary of their national GHG inventories by sector;

(b) Samoa gave a presentation on its measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. The country presented its Climate Risk Profile as a tool for vulnerability and adaptation assessment, with the key results of an analysis of current and future climate risks and key climate change adaptation strategies;

(c) Brazil gave a presentation on its measures to mitigate climate change. The presentation outlined Brazil's sustainable development programmes and actions on renewable energy and energy conservation and/or efficiency to maintain Brazil's 'clean' energy, including key climate change mitigation strategies;

(d) Malaysia gave a presentation on technology development and transfer, provision of finance, capacity-building and constraints and gaps. The presentation included information on Malaysia's climate change programmes on technology development and transfer, its climate change programmes on capacity-building, technology transfer and the provision of finance, research and systematic observation and the development of technical studies in Asia;

(e) Cuba gave a presentation on education, training and public awareness, information and networking, and research and systematic observation, and related financial and technical needs. The presentation outlined Cuba's programmes on meteorological, climate and atmospheric pollution surveillance systems, and its programmes on education, training, information, networking, research and systematic observation and the development of technical studies in the Latin America and the Caribbean region;

(f) Uruguay gave a presentation on its proposed projects for financing. The presentation highlighted the proposed mitigation and adaptation projects, specific technologies to be used, the benefits of such projects and estimates of incremental costs and proposed financing;

(g) The participant from Angola, who is also a member of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, gave a presentation on the difficulties encountered by the least developed countries in the use of the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, and the lessons learned in overcoming these difficulties.

**2. Exchange of views of the thematic working groups on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention"**

18. The participants were divided into five thematic working groups, according to their area of expertise, to have in-depth discussions on the topics outlined in paragraph 14(b) above.

19. As indicated in paragraph 11(a) above, the workshop participants were provided with a background paper to provide a general framework for discussion, with a summary of the current UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties. The working groups based their discussions on the questions provided in the paper, decision 17/CP.8 and the CGE survey results, which can be found on the UNFCCC website.<sup>6</sup>

20. The synthesis of the outcome of the discussions of the thematic working groups is contained in the annex to this document. The full versions of the presentations made by the working groups can be found on the UNFCCC website.<sup>7</sup>

### **III. Closing session**

21. The Chair thanked the Government of Antigua and Barbuda for hosting the workshop and the warm welcome accorded to the workshop participants.

22. He also thanked the participants for a very successful workshop, and indicated that the output from the workshop will serve as useful input to the fourth meeting of the CGE.

23. Finally, the Chair expressed gratitude to the secretariat for the effective support that it provided for the workshop.

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<sup>6</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/cge/items/5926.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/items/5926.php)>.

<sup>7</sup> As footnote 6 above.



## Annex

### Synthesis of the thematic working group presentations made at the workshop<sup>1</sup>

The table below contains the outcome of the discussions of the five thematic working groups formed at the workshop, composed as follows:

(a) The group on national greenhouse gas inventories consisted of representatives from Algeria, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea and Singapore;

(b) The group on measures to facilitate adaptation to climate change consisted of representatives from Armenia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Colombia, Cuba, Guyana, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa and Uzbekistan;

(c) The group on measures to mitigate climate change consisted of representatives from Albania, Brazil, Cambodia, Egypt, European Union, Georgia, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan and Uruguay;

(d) The group on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs consisted of representatives from Argentina, Costa Rica, Grenada, Mongolia and Morocco;

(e) The group on education, training and public awareness, information and networking, research and systematic observation consisted of representatives from Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on national greenhouse gas inventories</i>   | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories for the latest years available, taking into account the national capabilities and circumstances, with comparable milestones among countries;</li> </ul>                       | 7   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the level of ambition to apply the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) <i>Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> (2000 and 2003);</li> </ul>  | 11  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To describe in greater detail the procedures and arrangements to sustain the GHG inventory process (e.g. documentation, quality assurance and quality control, archiving system and inventory improvement plan);</li> </ul> | 21  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage institutional arrangements for the improvement of future national inventories;</li> </ul>  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To encourage the use of national emission factors and the use of the most recent IPCC emission factors;</li> </ul>  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enhance the systematic sharing of local emission factors (e.g. via the IPCC Emission Factor Database);</li> </ul>  |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parties wishing to provide more detailed information may</li> </ul>   |   |

<sup>1</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/cge/items/5926.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/items/5926.php)>.

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| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on national greenhouse gas inventories</i>  |  | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
| submit national GHG inventory reports;  |  |   |
| • To revise the reporting tables in order to present more detailed information;   |  | 22  |
| • To encourage the use of a uniform reporting format for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention  |  | 23  |
| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change</i>   |  | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
| • The current UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (hereinafter referred to as the guidelines) need to be updated to reflect the advancements made in the science of climate change and to include the use of scenarios;   |  | 30 and 33   |
| • To encourage Parties to select from the range of scenarios the ones that are suitable for their national and regional circumstances and to justify why a particular scenario is being used;   |  |   |
| • To give the flexibility to Parties to select scenarios that are suitable for specific sectors, and to use as many scenarios as they consider necessary to assess the vulnerability of all sectors within their countries. However, Parties should be encouraged to use tools/models that are suitable for several sectors, such as integrated assessment models;  |  |   |
| • To provide some references to well-developed methodologies and tools for vulnerability and adaptation studies. These methodologies should provide best practices which Parties are encouraged to follow. However, Parties should have the choice to be able to use scenarios that they consider suitable for their local circumstances. Parties should be encouraged to apply vulnerability analyses based on historical and current climate data as well as projected climate scenarios, building on previous national communications; |  |   |
| • To encourage Parties to use climate vulnerability indices, which should be formulated within the established definition of vulnerability in the Convention, to be used only at the national level to identify the most vulnerable areas, groups and sectors. Vulnerability indices can be useful in the prioritization of in-country projects for resource mobilization and subsequent implementation;  |  |   |
| • To make reference to documented best practices and lessons learned in developing national strategies, plans and programmes for climate change adaptation, taking into account experience gained from the preparation of previous national communications. The secretariat, in collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to   |  | 35 and 36   |

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| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change</i> | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
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the Convention, the National Communications Support Programme and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, is encouraged to provide such documentation on best practices and lessons learned;

- To provide guidance on the evaluation and prioritization of adaptation measures in order to assist Parties in prioritizing adaptation measures and give funding agencies a fair understanding of the needs of Parties;
- To encourage Parties to reflect the cost associated with prioritizing adaptation strategies and measures. National adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) and other adaptation strategies should complement the national communication;
- To provide a reference to a list of regional centres of excellence and/or countries that develop and support climate/socio-economic scenarios continually, and those that support such centres and/or countries and/or seek their assistance;
- To make reference to a databank, to be developed, of challenges encountered by Parties when using certain scenarios, so that other Parties using such scenarios are aware of potential problems;
- To encourage Parties to consider synergy among the Rio Conventions;
- To encourage Parties to take a holistic approach to the preparation of their national communications rather than preparing each thematic component in isolation;
- To encourage Parties that are in a position to do so to report on the implementation of adaptation options;
- The revised guidelines would require enhanced capacity-building in certain critical areas

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| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change</i> | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methodologies on socio-economic and environmental impacts of mitigation measures should be developed;</li> <li>• List/annex containing tools/methodologies available should be enhanced (e.g. from IPCC);</li> <li>• The guidelines could be further elaborated to allow flexibility for different national circumstances (not too prescriptive);</li> <li>• Guidance is needed on institutional arrangements;</li> <li>• Basic information on a national mitigation framework is needed;</li> </ul> | <p>38, 39 (including footnote) and 40</p> |
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| <p><i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigation measures: information on their objective and implementation is needed;</li> <li>• Results: more information required on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoided emissions;</li> <li>• Abatement of the rate of increase in GHG emissions;</li> <li>• Enhancement of removals by sinks;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Indicators: need for qualitative and/or quantitative (e.g. improvement of emission factors);</li> <li>• Need to consider the usefulness of tables and graphs</li> </ul>   | <p><i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i></p> |
| <p><i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To split the ideas in paragraph 49 of the annex to decision 17/CP.8 into two separate paragraphs: 49 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First part: constraints and gaps and related financial, technical and capacity needs associated with the implementation of activities, measures and programmes;</li> <li>• Second part: constraints and gaps and related financial, technical and capacity needs associated with the preparation and improvement of national communications on a continuous basis;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To include a table, or series of tables, in which Parties could indicate more precisely all financing sources and amounts; 50</li> <li>• Another table outlining in-country contributions would also be useful (e.g. preparation costs, activity costs and data collection costs);</li> <li>• To include a table, or series of tables, to better organize the information and make it more user-friendly; the table could provide examples of areas of activities to be included; 51</li> <li>• To provide a concise list of mitigation actions (which includes, but is broader than, projects) in the main part of the national communication with the key information; 52</li> <li>• To supplement the list with an annex containing more detailed information, in line with the areas set out in Article 12, paragraph 4, of the Convention (i.e. specific technologies, materials, equipment, techniques and practices to implement projects for financing; incremental costs; and estimate of benefits);</li> <li>• To add a new paragraph, 52 bis, for adaptation actions, similar to the request for the list of mitigation projects in paragraph 52; 52</li> </ul> | <p><i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i></p> |

*Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs*

*Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8*

- The first sentence of paragraph 53 would be better placed in the adaptation section of the national communication (because it is about measures and projects); 53
- To clarify the meaning of “support programmes from Parties included in Annex II to the Convention”, as contained in paragraph 53:
  - The broader categories (bilateral, multilateral, Global Environment Facility, etc.) from paragraph 50 would be helpful to improve clarity;
- Reporting on technology transfer needs would be better placed in chapter V.A “Transfer of technologies” (para. 42); 54
- Tabular format reporting for technology assistance could be helpful;
- Reporting elements emanating from the new Technology Mechanism (established by decision 1/CP.16) will need to be considered;
- Paragraph 55 could be improved if it were focused on capacity-building needs and assistance (rather than other needs); 55

Alternative approach: restructuring of chapters:

- Integrate reporting on constraints, gaps, needs and assistance for mitigation; adaptation sections would move to the corresponding main chapters:
  - Mitigation – paragraphs 49 and 52;
  - Adaptation – paragraphs 49, 52 bis and 53;
- Create new chapters on technology development and transfer and capacity-building and integrate reporting on constraints and gaps, etc.:
  - Technology – paragraphs 42, 49 and 54;
  - Capacity – paragraphs 46, 49 and 55;
- Chapter VI of the guidelines would now be dedicated to needs, constraints and gaps relating to the preparation of national communications:
  - Would include paragraphs 49 and 50;
  - New paragraph on institutional needs for the continuous preparation of national communications (relates to decision 1/CP.16);
- Inclusion of a summary annex compiling all the information on funding for activities (now reported in the main chapters) would be helpful;

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| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs</i> | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
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Concluding remarks:

- Consider the usefulness and purpose of the various reporting elements, and tailor the guidelines accordingly;
  - Reduce repetition;
  - Improve clarity within chapter VI of the guidelines and in relation to other chapters;
  - Provide sufficient detail to guide reporting, yet keep the elements simple wherever possible;
  - Consider the use of tables and annexes
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| <i>Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on education, training and public awareness, information and networking, research and systematic observation</i> | <i>Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8</i> |
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| Steps to integrate climate change considerations into policy development: | 41 |
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- Brief description of ways in which climate change issues are considered/intended in relevant planning frameworks at the national and sectoral levels;
- Description of how climate change adaptation/mitigation is addressed in the relevant sectors of the national economy, including information on the consultative process (e.g. NAPA process);
- Description of co-benefits resulting from climate change adaptation and mitigation activities in relevant sectors;
- Brief description of how mitigation and adaptation activities are being considered in national development programmes and projects, and linkages to requests for external funding;
- Description of national policies that have been enacted on climate change, including institutional structure for implementation;

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| Climate change research and systematic observation: | 43 |
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- Description of the status of national and/or regional programmes for research and systematic observation (RSO), indicating any difficulties encountered;
- Description of the nature and level of participation in the Global Climate Observing System and related programmes, indicating any difficulties encountered;
- Description of gaps in meteorological, atmospheric and oceanographic research and observation;
- Brief description of needs and priorities for climate RSO that would benefit from international assistance;

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*Synthesis of the presentations of the thematic group on education, training and public awareness, information and networking, research and systematic observation* *Reference to paragraphs of annex to decision 17/CP.8*

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Information on research programmes: 44

- Brief description of specific research programmes, in the areas of mitigation and adaptation, as well as the development of emission factors and activity data at the national and/or regional level;
- Brief description of bilateral and multilateral cooperation on projects and programmes in the above-mentioned areas;
- Brief description of specific needs and priorities identified for strengthening research programmes;

Information on education, training and public awareness: 45

- Brief description of activities undertaken to implement Article 6 of the Convention, including the institutional and/or legal frameworks, and the means to monitor and assess their effectiveness;
- Brief description of existing activities and plans to incorporate climate change into national educational programmes;
- Brief description of the existing and/or planned education, training and public awareness campaigns and level of involvement of relevant stakeholders;
- Brief description of identified gaps, needs and priorities in climate change education, training and public awareness, including international assistance needed;
- Brief description of the processes involved in vulnerability and adaptation assessment, including a country's NAPA, as appropriate, and its linkages with national priorities and information related to Article 6 of the Convention;

Information and networking: 48

- Brief description of the efforts to facilitate information-sharing within developing countries, including channels put in place to ensure efficient flow of information to grass-roots level;
  - Brief description of the efforts to facilitate information-sharing among developing countries and regions;
  - Brief description of the efforts to engage in and facilitate regional and international networking, for example among centres of excellence;
  - Brief description of constraints experienced, if any, in facilitating information sharing and dissemination, and networking
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