



Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate  
First session  
Geneva, 21 - 25 August 1995  
Agenda item 4

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE BERLIN MANDATE

Draft report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate on its first session

Rapporteur: [to be completed]

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. OPENING OF THE SESSION .....	XXX	XX
II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS .....	XXX	XX
A. Adoption of the agenda .....	XXX	XX
B. Organization of work of the session .....	XXX	XX
C. Attendance .....	XXX	XX
D. Documentation .....	XXX	XX
III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OTHER THAN THE CHAIRMAN .....	XXX	XX

	<u>Paragraph</u>	<u>Page</u>
IV. PROGRAMME OF WORK UNTIL THE THIRD SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES . . . . .	XXX	XX
A. Structure . . . . .	XXX	XX
B. Scheduling . . . . .	XXX	XX
C. Analysis and assessment . . . . .	XXX	XX
D. Requests for inputs to subsequent sessions of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate . . . . .	XXX	XX
V. REPORT ON AND CLOSURE OF THE FIRST SESSION . . . . .	XXX	XX

## I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The first session of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (hereinafter referred to as "the AGBM") was held at Geneva from 21 to 25 August 1995. The session was convened in accordance with decision 1/CP.1, paragraph 6 (FCCC/CP/1995/7 Add.1).
2. The Chairman of the Group, Ambassador Raúl Estrada-Oyuela, opened the session at the first meeting, on 21 August 1995. In welcoming the participants, he noted that the Convention was entering a new phase of consolidating past work and achievements. Recalling the conclusion of the Conference of the Parties at its first session (COP 1) that the existing commitments in Article 4.2(a) and 4.2(b) of the Convention are inadequate, he highlighted the main elements of the Berlin Mandate (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.1). The purpose of the Berlin Mandate process is to take appropriate action for the post-2000 period, including strengthening the commitments of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. He reviewed the guidelines for the negotiating process, such as the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities. He recalled that the process aimed to elaborate policies and measures and to set quantified limitation and reduction objectives for Annex I Parties. The Mandate also provided that no new commitments would be introduced for developing country Parties, but that the process would continue to advance the implementation of existing commitments in Article 4.1. The process will include, in its initial stages, an analysis and assessment to identify possible policies and measures for Annex I Parties. While pointing to the short time available, the Chairman expressed confidence that, with the goodwill of all Parties, a legal instrument reflecting the aspirations of the international community would be successfully concluded.
3. The Executive Secretary welcomed all participants to the session. He regretted that funding had been available to support participation by only a limited number of Parties. As the Convention process was entering a new phase, coherence remained an important aim and he outlined the measures taken to achieve this aim. He then highlighted five key aspects of the Berlin Mandate process. First, he pointed out the need to adhere to the time table for preparing and adopting a new, complex legal instrument. Second, a common understanding regarding the process of analysis and assessment was required. Third, the nature, timing and origin of inputs also needed to be determined. Fourth, the communications from Parties included in Annex I and the in-depth review process offered valuable information on relevant national policies and measures and could provide key inputs to the process. Fifth, while new commitments for Parties not included in Annex I were excluded, the process remained open to all Parties, including developing countries whose interests were affected and engaged. He called for strong political commitment and active participation by all Parties to help lead the Berlin Mandate process to an effective result.

## II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

### A. Adoption of the agenda

4. At its 1st meeting on 21 August, the AGBM adopted the following agenda:
  1. Organizational matters:
    - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
    - (b) Organization of work of the session.
  2. Election of officers other than the Chairman.
  3. Programme of work until the third session of the Conference of the Parties:
    - (a) Structure;
    - (b) Scheduling;
    - (c) Analysis and assessment;
    - (d) Requests for inputs to subsequent sessions of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate.
  4. Report on the session.

### B. Organization of work of the session

5. At the 1st meeting of the AGBM on 21 August, the Chairman recalled that there would be services available for one morning and one afternoon meeting with interpretation each day. He also referred to the documentation as mentioned in document FCCC/AGBM/1995/1, paragraphs 4, 5 and 7.

### C. Attendance

6. [to be completed]

D. Documentation

7. The following documents were prepared for the AGBM at its first session:

FCCC/AGBM/1995/1	Provisional agenda and annotations, including suggestions for the organization of work
FCCC/AGBM/1995/MISC. 1	Implementation of the Berlin Mandate. Comments from Parties
FCCC/AGBM/1995/L.1	Draft report of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate at its first session

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OTHER THAN THE CHAIRMAN

8. At the 1st meeting of the AGBM, on 21 August, the Chairman reported on his consultations with regional groups in respect of nominations for the Bureau of the AGBM. He recalled that he had been authorized by COP 1 to undertake such consultations and indicated that they would continue. The representative of Saudi Arabia observed that the issue of the rules of procedure of the COP had not been resolved. The Chairman noted that this matter was addressed in the report of COP 1 (FCCC/CP/1995/7, para. 14).

[to be completed]

9. [to be completed]

IV. PROGRAMME OF WORK UNTIL THE THIRD SESSION  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

A. Structure

10. At its 1st meeting, on 21 August, the AGBM considered this item. On the recommendation of the Chairman, it decided not to establish formal subgroups at this time: more flexible approaches, such as the use of informal consultation groups, were preferred. The AGBM would return to this issue in the future if it became necessary to establish subgroups.

B. Scheduling

11. At its 1st meeting, on 21 August, the AGBM considered this item and confirmed the following schedule of meetings as established by the Bureau of the COP:

- second session: 30 October - 3 November 1995
- third session: 4 - 8 March 1996
- fourth session: 15 - 19 July 1996 (if COP 2 is in October 1996)
- fifth session: immediately preceding COP 2, October 1996 (to be decided)
- sixth session: 10 - 14 March 1997

The AGBM took note of the explanation by the secretariat that the amount of meeting time was fixed as a result of the decisions of COP 1 on the Convention budget (FCCC/CP/7/Add.1, decisions 17/CP.1 and 18/CP.1) and that any additional meeting time for the Group would have to be at the expense of the other subsidiary bodies.

C. Analysis and assessment

[to be completed]

D. Requests for inputs to subsequent sessions of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate

[to be completed]

V. REPORT ON AND CLOSURE OF THE FIRST SESSION

[to be completed]

-----