



CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
First session
Berlin, 28 March - 7 April 1995
Agenda item 6 (c)

CONCLUSIONS OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES
AND ADOPTION OF DECISIONS

Draft decision on agenda item 5 (d) (i)
submitted by the Chairman of the
Committee of the Whole

The Committee of the Whole recommends to the Conference of the Parties the adoption of the following decision:

Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning:
Institutional linkage

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties, at its first session, in accordance with Article 8.3 of the Convention, shall designate a permanent secretariat and make arrangements for its functioning,

Having considered the related conclusions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change contained in the report on the work of its eleventh session, 1/

1/ A/AC.237/79/Add.1, annex III.

1. Notes with appreciation the advice of the Secretary-General, 2/ the related comments of the Contact Group of the Committee 3/ and the "Understanding on support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and cooperation with the Convention secretariat"; 4/
2. Decides that the Convention secretariat will be institutionally linked to the United Nations, while not being fully integrated in the work programme and management structure of any particular programme;
3. Takes note of, and provisionally accepts, the arrangements proposed by the Secretary-General for administrative support to the Convention secretariat, 5/ requests the Executive Secretary to pursue the question of the allotment of overhead to defray administrative expenses as indicated in the advice of the Secretary-General 6/ and requests the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to review the proposed arrangements, at its first session in October 1995, on the basis of a report from the Executive Secretary, so that they may take effect from 1 January 1996;
4. Decides further to review the functioning of the institutional linkage referred to in paragraph 2 above, not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties;
5. Requests the General Assembly, bearing in mind the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations and the large number of States that are Parties to the Convention, to decide to finance from the regular programme budget of the United Nations the conference-servicing costs arising from sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies for the duration of the institutional linkage approved under paragraph 2 above;
6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the interim secretariat to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the estimated financial implications resulting from paragraph 5 above for each of the years 1996 and 1997;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to appoint, after consultation with the Conference of the Parties through its Bureau, the head of the Convention secretariat, with the title of Executive Secretary, for a three-year term of office starting on 1 January 1996; notes that

2/ A/AC.237/79/Add.1, annex III.

3/ A/AC.237/79/Add.5.

4/ A/AC.237/79/Add.6.

5/ FCCC/CP/1995/5/Add.4.

6/ A/AC.237/79/Add.1, annex III, para. 15.

the level of the head of the interim secretariat is D-2; and requests the President of the Conference of the Parties to consult with the Secretary-General on the level of remuneration of the head of the Convention secretariat and of the two other senior posts in the staffing table, 7/ whose programme functions include activities currently managed by staff at the D-1 level, taking into account the proposals made during the consultations on the Convention budget;

8. Decides to review, at its third session, the levels of the Executive Secretary and of the two other senior posts;

9. Expresses its appreciation for the support which has been generously provided to the Convention secretariat by the United Nations, especially the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, and invites the Executive Secretary to pursue further the provision of such support in the context of the understanding on support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and cooperation with the Convention secretariat. 8/

7/ See paragraph 4 of document FCCC/CP/1995/L.4/Rev.1; footnote 2 to that paragraph will require an amendment to reflect this decision.

8/ A/AC.237/79/Add.6.