



SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Seventh session

Bonn, 20-29 October 1997

Agenda item 3 (b)

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE  
CONVENTION**

**Consideration of initial national communications from Parties  
not included in Annex I to the Convention**

**Proposal by the Vice-Chairman**

*The Subsidiary Body for Implementation*

1. *Decides* to continue its deliberations on a process for considering initial national communications by non-Annex I Parties with a view to recommending a decision to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session;
2. *Requests* the secretariat:
  - (a) To organize a workshop on a process for considering initial national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, to be held prior to the eighth session of the SBI, with the aim of assisting deliberations on the matter in the light of submissions of those national communications received by the secretariat by that time;
  - (b) To include, in its regular report to the SBI on the activities of the secretariat to facilitate the provision of financial and technical support to non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of national communications, its observations on the national communications submitted by non-Annex I Parties by 30 March 1998; and
  - (c) To make available a compilation of comments by Parties on the Co-chairs' draft compilation (contained in the appendix hereto) for further consideration at the workshop and by the SBI at its eighth session. Parties are invited to submit these comments to the secretariat prior to 21 March 1998.

**APPENDIX <sup>1</sup>**

**Agenda Item 3(b) of the SBI at its seventh session**

**Co-chairs draft compilation on the process for consideration of communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention**

*[The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* Articles [4.1, 7.2, 9.2, 10.2,] 12.1, 12.5, 12.7 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Recalling* also its decisions 4/CP.1, 7/CP.1, 3/CP.2, 8/CP.1 and 10/CP.2,

*Noting* that each developing country Party shall make its initial communication within three years of entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3 and that Parties that are least developed may make their submission at their discretion,

*Noting* the differentiated timetable for the submission of the initial national communications from Parties not included in Annex I [because of the different timing of the provision of funding from the interim financial mechanism;] [ and, consequently, the need for flexibility in its consideration of these communications,]

1. *Decides* that the information contained in the initial communications of Parties not included in Annex I will be considered in a facilitative, non-confrontational, open and transparent manner to ensure that the COP has accurate, consistent and relevant information at its disposal to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities;

[2. *Decides* that the process of consideration shall:

(a) Assist the secretariat's determination of the [informational, technical and financial] needs of non-Annex I Parties [for the preparation of their national communications in accordance with Article 8.2(c).] [related to implementation of commitments; and in particular those associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4.];

(b) Seek to enhance the comparability of and focus on non-Annex I Party national communications;

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1. Available in English only.

(c) Provide a technical assessment of progress in implementation of the Convention;  
and

(d) Assess quantitative and qualitative information for consistency with applicable guidelines adopted by Parties;]

[3. *Decides* that each national communication submitted by a non-Annex I Party should be subject to an [in-depth] [technical] [assessment] [review] within one year of receipt by the secretariat; such assessment should be carried out by expert teams, under the authority of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation;

(a) That the expert teams should conduct their work through regional workshops to provide for expert discussion of information contained in national communications, and through voluntary, in-country visits where helpful;

(b) That each expert team should produce a report on each [assessment] [review], written in [an objective] [non-confrontational] manner, and submitted to the SBI;]

*Decides* that the initial communications from non-Annex I Parties shall be considered on an annual or biennial basis;]

4. *Requests* the secretariat:

(a) To facilitate the provision of assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national communications, in accordance with Article 8.2(c);

(b) To compile and synthesize the information contained in national communications from non-Annex I Parties [annually] for consideration by the SBI; [in accordance with Article 10.2(a)];

(c) To co-ordinate and facilitate the review/consideration of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I, [including the organization of in-depth reviews] [and regional workshops];

(d) To select, under the guidance of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, members of the expert teams from names nominated by Parties and intergovernmental organizations to assist in the review/consideration;]

(e) To arrange and host regional workshops to provide for expert [discussion] [review] of information contained in national communications;]

(f) To note instances where in-country expert visits would be beneficial to promote greater understanding of a Party's specific national circumstances, inventory data or efforts to respond to climate change;]

(g) To arrange, upon request by a Party, for voluntary, in-country expert visits for individual consideration of national communications;]

(h) To make available, with the permission of the relevant Party, the national communication and the report of the expert's review to the Council of the Global Environmental Facility, with the request that they take particular note of this information in their consideration of project proposals from the relevant Party;]

(i) To compile and make available to Parties, a compendium of projects and related information submitted by Parties not included in Annex I in accordance with Article 12.4;]

(j) To prepare a report on the application of guidelines for the preparation of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I with a view to further enhancing the accuracy, completeness, comparability and focus on national communications;]

5. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider the information contained in national communications:

[(a) To assist the COP in assessing the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by the Parties, in accordance with Article 10.2; and]

[(b) To provide appropriate guidance to the Global Environment Facility;]]

[6. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice:

[(a) To further refine the guidelines for the preparation of the national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention; and]

[(b) To prepare scientific assessments on the effects of measures taken in the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with Article 9.2(b);]

[7. *Invites* Parties and intergovernmental organizations to nominate experts to assist in the consideration of national communications;]

[8. *Urges* Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention to submit their national communications at their earliest convenience;]

[9. *Requests* non-Annex I Parties to submit to the secretariat national inventory data on a [regular] basis.]]

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