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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

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New Delhi, 23–29 October 2002

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

CAPACITY-BUILDING

**Views from Parties on the implementation of the national capacity needs
self-assessment projects**

Submissions from Parties

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its sixteenth session, invited Parties to submit, by 20 August 2002, their views on the extent to which the implementation of the national capacity needs self-assessment projects, funded by the Global Environment Facility, addresses activities identified under the national scope of needs and areas for capacity-building listed in the annex to decision 2/CP.7, for consideration by the SBI at its seventeenth session (FCCC/SBI/2001/6, para. 30 (f)).
2. The secretariat has received such six submissions. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

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PAPER NO. 1: AZERBAIJAN

**VIEWS FROM AZERBAIJAN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL
CAPACITY NEEDS SELF-ASSESSMENT PROJECTS**

There are many works deal with joint management of conventions in the Ministry for Ecology and Natural resources. The project proposed on relationship with other conventions is applicable. There are many difficulties on projects financing.

PAPER NO. 2: DENMARK, ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND
ITS MEMBER STATES AND OF CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC,
LITHUANIA, SLOVAKIA AND SLOVENIA

**SUBMISSION BY DENMARK ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND
ITS MEMBER STATES, AND CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, LITHUANIA,
SLOVAKIA AND SLOVENIA**

Copenhagen, 5 August, 2002

CAPACITY BUILDING IN NON-ANNEX I PARTIES

On behalf of the European Community and its Member States, and Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Lithuania, Slovakia and Slovenia, Denmark welcomes the opportunity to present its views on the extent to which implementation of national capacity building needs self assessments addresses activities identified under the initial scope of needs and areas for capacity building listed in the annex to decision 2/CP.7.

Introduction

Capacity building in non-Annex I parties (NAIP) has been dealt with extensively in previous decisions under the Climate Convention and in UNFCCC documentation. Documentation includes FCCC/SB/2000/INF.1 containing a compilation and synthesis of information on capacity-building needs and priorities of developing countries (non-Annex I Parties) and document FCCC/CP/2000/INF.5 containing submissions by Parties.

A framework for capacity building in developing countries, reflecting the insights obtained through the above mentioned documents, was adopted with Decision 2/CP.7 (document FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1)

Needs assessments

The EU welcomes the Capacity Development Initiative by the GEF and the approach to finance national capacity needs self-assessments. As each environmental convention requires needs assessments, the EU supports the GEF approach to realizing synergies between these assessments. However, it appears that only a limited number of countries have moved ahead on national capacity self-assessments and prioritisation. Therefore, EU does not have a sufficient basis for commenting on the extent to which implementation of national capacity needs self-assessments address the activities in Decision 2/CP.7 or whether additional capacity building needs have been identified. The EU, however, wishes to use this opportunity to submit the following views on capacity building in developing countries.

Views of capacity building in developing countries

An integrated approach to national development is necessary to combat climate change. Given the crucial interface between sustainable development and climate change and acknowledging that climate change poses a threat to poverty eradication efforts, it is important that countries pursue coherent and coordinated approaches to capacity building. Thus, capacity building should be seen in the context of broad national priority settings and regarded a cornerstone in promoting sustainable development, based on national sustainable development strategies and/or strategies for poverty reduction.

Capacity building should aim at strengthening human, scientific, technological, organizational, institutional, and resource capabilities in a broad perspective.

In the context of climate change, the goal of capacity building is to enhance the ability of developing countries to address and evaluate the crucial questions related to (I) policy choices and (II) modes of implementation among different development options, based on understanding of (a) environmental potentials and limits, and (b) needs as perceived by the people of the country concerned keeping in mind the inter-linkage between economic, social and environmental issues.

Capacity building should focus on interventions aimed at creating enabling policy environment and strengthening institutional and human capacity through on the ground actions that are essential for an effective and multi-sectoral response to adapt to and combat climate change.

Although NAI countries share many capacity building needs, capacity building needs also vary from country to country. Therefore, capacity building must be country driven and prioritized, and support for capacity building should respond to country- and region-specific needs.

Most capacity building activities that have taken place so far have been project-based in nature. It is important that the capacities that have already been built during these (concluded) projects will be sustained and further developed.

In the efforts to facilitate capacity building, the role of regional or national institutions, including centres of excellence in NAI countries, should be considered.

The EU encourages developing countries to prepare national capacity building needs self-assessments, supported by the GEF, and to include timeframes for immediate, medium (within the next five years) and long term priorities on a country by country or where appropriate regional basis.

PAPER NO. 3: GHANA, ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA

SUBMISSION BY GHANA ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA

Accra, 4 September 2002

CAPACITY BUILDING IN NON-ANNEX I PARTIES

Ghana on behalf of the G77 and China considers the review of the activities of the GEF in relation to capacity building in Non-Annex I countries as timely, and welcomes the opportunity to express her views on the extent to which the implementation of the capacity needs self-assessment projects addresses activities identified under the initial scope of needs and areas for capacity-building listed in the annex to decision 2/CP.7

The Group of 77 and China acknowledges the importance of the decision made in Marrakech at COP 7 in relation to capacity-building in developing countries (Decision 2/CP.7). From decision 2/CP.7 and other relevant decisions, the COP urged Global Environment Facility (GEF) to adopt a streamlined and expedited approach in financing activities within the framework on capacity-building.

The COP further requested the GEF as an operating entity of the financial mechanism to report on its progress in support of the implementation of the capacity-building in its report to the Conference of the Parties.

In the annex to decision 2/CP.7 Parties agreed that the framework for capacity-building should be implemented promptly and developing countries which have already identified their capacity-building priorities through ongoing work aimed at the implementation of the Convention should be able to promptly implement capacity-building activities under the framework.

The Group of 77 and China welcomes the creation of the special climate change fund to finance capacity-building activities adopted under the Marrakech Accords and urges the GEF to facilitate the operationalisation of the fund so that capacity-building activities under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol would receive additional financial support for effective implementation.

The G77 and China have noted that the GEF is providing funds to implement decision 2/CP4 and the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) programme. We do not see direct action by GEF to assist developing countries in implementing decision 2/CP7. We therefore urge the GEF to do more in complying fully with the guidance provided by the decision 2/CP7 and 3/CP.7, in particular the capacity-building activities relating to the preparation of national inventories and establishment of national systems. The extent to which developing countries can contribute to addressing the global problem of climate change and also effectively participate in the climate change negotiation process will depend on the level of capacities in our countries.

PAPER NO. 4: MYANMAR

CAPACITY BUILDING IN NON-ANNEX I PARTIES

View - SBI noted that a limited number of parties have submitted proposals to the GEF for funding to implement their national capacity self-assessments covering climate change, bio-diversity and land degradation. It reveals that the parties which do not submit the proposal have their limitations and constraints. To overcome these, SBI may find a solution to consult with each party and help submit the proposal.

The solution might be the calling of volunteers for SBI to deal with specific parties.

PAPER NO. 5: URUGUAY

The primary goal of the NCSA is to identify priorities and needs for capacity building to protect the global environment. The specific objectives include , inter alia:

- to identify, confirm or review priority issues for action within the thematic areas of biodiversity, climate change and desertification//land degradation, respectively;
- to explore related capacity needs within and across the three thematic areas;
- to catalyze targeted and co-ordinated action and request for future external funding and assistance; and
- to link country action to the broader national environment management and sustainable development framework.

There is a limit for this type of financial assistance of US\$ 200.000.

On the other hand, paragraph 15 of the Annex to the Decision 7/CP presents an initial list of needs and areas for capacity building in developing countries.

Taking into consideration the aforementioned, please find my comments below:

The fact of a financial limit to attend, among other aspects, the analysis of the capacity building needs, common to the three thematic spheres (biodiversity, climate change and desertification/land degradation) restrict the possibility of properly attending the totality of the activities of identification and evaluation of the 15 items relative to climate change, mentioned in paragraph 15 of mentioned Annex, or to study the totality of them in depth.

b. There are subjects that due to their characteristics and complexity, would require a special and specific financial assistance; for instance, development and transfer of technology assessment.

PAPER NO. 6: UZBEKISTAN

VIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Capacity Building in non-Annex I Parties

The Republic of Uzbekistan considered the decision 2/CP.7 “Capacity building in developing countries” and its Annex “Framework for capacity building in developing countries” and fully supports the established framework, which substantially will allow to decide concrete tasks of UNFCCC implementation and effectively participate at the Kyoto Protocol.

We count that one of urgent tasks of capacity building is the development of strategy according to which Parties could develop and to carry out concrete measures on strengthening capacity, taking into attention the specific national circumstances.

We agreed that the activities on capacity building should build on work already undertaken by developing countries. The strengthening of institutional capacity building should include not only creation of the national coordination centers on climate change problems, but also the decision of the Clean Development Mechanism issues concerning to registration, certification, monitoring, verification etc.

Taking into attention the specific national circumstances of the countries with transition economy, especially their financial difficulties, need to support and to promote creation of such centers at its initial stage by pilot and/or the small-side projects through the financial and technical support of an operating entity of the financial mechanism, multilateral and bilateral financial agencies.
