

Decision 12/CP.4

Initial national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular Articles 4.1 and 10.2 (a) and Article 12.1, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6 and 12.7 thereof,

Recalling also its decisions on first communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), in particular decisions 10/CP.2 and 11/CP.2,

Noting that, in accordance with Article 12.5 of the Convention, each non-Annex I 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 of the Convention, and that Parties that are least developed may make their initial communications at their discretion,

Noting further the differentiated timetable for the submission of initial national communications from non-Annex I Parties,

Having considered that from its first session, in accordance with Article 12.7 of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall arrange for the provision to developing country Parties of technical and financial support, on request, in compiling and communicating information under that Article, as well as in identifying the technical and financial needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4 of the Convention, and *having also considered* Article 12.4 of the Convention,

1. *Decides:*

(a) To consider the information communicated by non-Annex I Parties in assessing the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by the Parties, pursuant to Article 10.2(a) of the Convention;

(b) That communications from non-Annex I Parties shall be considered in a facilitative, non-confrontational, open and transparent manner;

(c) That, pursuant to decision 10/CP.2, the national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances of non-Annex I Parties should, in accordance with Article 4.1 of the Convention and the provisions of Article 3 and Article 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8,

4.9 and 4.10 of the Convention, be taken into account by the Conference of the Parties in considering matters related to their initial communications;

(d) To ensure that issues and concerns identified by non-Annex I Parties in their initial communications are brought to the attention of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and, through it, as appropriate, its implementing agencies when undertaking the comprehensive review of enabling activities projects;

2. *Requests* the subsidiary bodies to consider issues raised in the first compilation and synthesis report of communications from non-Annex I Parties at their eleventh sessions under relevant items of their agendas;

3. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its eleventh session, to consider the information communicated by non-Annex I Parties in assessing the overall aggregated effect of the steps taken by Parties;

4. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to prepare scientific assessments of the overall aggregated effects of measures taken, in accordance with Article 9.2 (b) of the Convention;

5. *Decides* to continue to address the consideration of communications from non-Annex I Parties at its fifth session, with a view to taking a further decision on this matter;

6. *Requests* Parties to submit their views to the secretariat by 31 March 1999 on the consideration of communications from non-Annex I Parties, as well as the timing of second national communications, taking into account Article 12.5 of the Convention, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its tenth session.

7. *Requests* the secretariat:

(a) To further facilitate assistance to developing country Parties, on request, in the compilation and communication of information required, in accordance with Article 8.2 (c) of the Convention;

(b) To compile and synthesize the information provided in initial national communications from non-Annex I Parties, as indicated in decision 10/CP.2, and in so doing to report on the problems encountered in the use of guidelines for the preparation of initial communications by non-Annex I Parties, and on other issues communicated by non-Annex I Parties, with a view, among other things, to further enhancing the comparability and focus of the communications;

(c) To prepare the first compilation and synthesis report of communications from non-Annex I Parties based on submissions received from Parties by 1 June 1999 and make that

report available to the subsidiary bodies at their eleventh sessions and to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session;

(d) To compile and make available to Parties a list of projects submitted by non-Annex I Parties in accordance with Article 12.4 of the Convention;

(e) To compile and make available to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation a report containing views and concerns identified by non-Annex I Parties, and to ensure that such views are taken into account in the GEF review of enabling activities on climate change;

*8th plenary meeting
14 November 1998*