

Decision 7/CP.5

First compilation and synthesis of initial 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 its Articles 4.1 and 10.2(a) and Article 12.1, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6 and 12.7,

Recalling also its decisions on initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), in particular decisions 10/CP.2, 11/CP.2, and 12/CP.4,

Noting 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 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,

Noting that, from its first session onward, in accordance with Article 12.7 of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties has arranged for the provision to developing country Parties of both 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,

Having considered the first compilation and synthesis of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention,¹ prepared by the secretariat pursuant to decision 12/CP.4,

Having considered the relevant recommendations of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,

1. *Requests*, in accordance with Article 12.5 of the Convention, each Party not included in Annex I to the Convention which has not made its initial communication within three years of the entry into force of the Convention for that Party, or of the availability of financial

¹ See FCCC/SBI/1999/11.

resources in accordance with Article 4.3 of the Convention, to do so as soon as possible, it being understood that Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial communications at their discretion;

2. *Requests* the Convention secretariat:

(a) To prepare the second compilation and synthesis of initial national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), based on submissions received from such Parties by 1 June 2000, and to make that report available to the subsidiary bodies with a view to its consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session;

(b) In preparing that compilation and synthesis, to report on problems encountered in using the guidelines for the preparation of initial national communications by non-Annex I Parties, and on other issues raised by non-Annex I Parties, with a view, among other things, to enhancing further the comparability and focus of the communications;

3. *Concludes*, with respect to the reporting of information by non-Annex I Parties that have submitted their initial national communications, that:

(a) Non-Annex I Parties are fulfilling their commitments under Article 4.1(a) of the Convention to make available to the Conference of the Parties national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol;

(b) Non-Annex I Parties are generally following the UNFCCC guidelines with a varied level of detail across the different communications;

4. *Concludes* that, in view of the problems encountered in the preparation of initial national communications, namely difficulties relating to the quality and availability of data, emission factors and methodologies for the integrated assessment of the effects of climate change and impacts of response measures, there is a need for maintaining and enhancing national capacities in non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of national communications;

5. *Concludes* that, although limitations have been encountered, the current guidelines facilitate reporting by Parties; that Parties have found ways to overcome these problems by providing additional information, particularly in relation to greenhouse gas inventories; and that further analysis of the problems in the use of the guidelines will be required when additional national communications are submitted;

6. *Concludes*, with respect to the implementation of the Convention by non-Annex I Parties, that, as described in the first compilation and synthesis of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention,² the reporting Parties are taking measures to address climate change and its adverse impacts.

*9th plenary meeting
4 November 1999*

² See footnote 1 above.