

Decision 18/CP.3

Volume of documentation

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 17/CP.2, paragraph 2, whereby it requested the Executive Secretary to submit to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its fifth session, further options for reducing the cost of documentation for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies,

1. *Takes note* of the efforts of the Convention secretariat to reduce the volume of documentation, as indicated in the note by the secretariat on volume of documentation;¹

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore with the United Nations the possibility of ensuring unrestricted access to all language versions of the documents of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that the United Nations makes available on its optical disk system through a restricted page on the World Wide Web;

3. *Invites* the Parties:

(a) To limit the volume of their submissions for circulation to Convention bodies, including those that do not require translation;

(b) To focus the content of submissions on material pertinent to the forthcoming sessions of the subsidiary bodies and to seek to avoid repetition of previously presented statements;

(c) To limit their requests for numbers of hard copies of documents;

(d) To limit the requests for documents that need to be translated;

(e) To schedule the delivery of documents in a timely manner that corresponds to the capacity of the Convention bodies to consider them;

4. *Notes* the intention of the Executive Secretary to advise presiding officers on the feasibility of producing, in a timely manner, the documentation envisaged in the conclusions of subsidiary bodies, before those conclusions are adopted.

*2nd plenary meeting
1 December 1997*

¹ FCCC/SBI/1997/12, paras. 9-10.