

Decision 2/CP.1

**Review of first communications from the Parties 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 4.2(a), (b) and (d), 7.2(a), (d) and (e), 9.2 (b) and 10.2,

Having considered recommendation 4 of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change,

1. *Adopts* the statement of purpose of the review process contained in annex I to the present decision and the description of tasks of the review contained in annex II;

2. *Decides:*

(a) That each national communication^{1/} submitted by a Party included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Party) should be subject to an in-depth review as soon as possible, but within one year of receipt by the secretariat, with the aim of completion by the second session of the Conference of the Parties; such in-depth reviews should be carried out by expert review teams, under the authority of the subsidiary bodies;

(b) That the review teams should be coordinated by a representative of the secretariat and composed of experts selected from those nominated by Parties and, as appropriate, by intergovernmental organizations as described in paragraph 4(b) below; experts nominated by Parties should, to the extent possible, constitute a majority of each team;

(c) That the review teams should conduct their work through in-depth "paper" reviews, guided by the purpose and tasks of the review referred to in paragraph 1 above, drawing upon annexes A, B and C to document A/AC.237/63/Add.1; if deemed helpful, visits to clarify the communications, with the prior approval of the Party concerned, might also be useful;

^{1/} In this recommendation, the term "national communication" includes communications from the regional economic integration organization included in Annex I to the Convention.

(d) That each review team should produce, under its collective responsibility, a report on each in-depth review of a national communication, written in non-confrontational language, and submit it to the subsidiary bodies; such review reports should be based on the indicative outline contained in annex III to the present decision; they should be approximately 10 pages in length and should include a summary; a draft of the review report should be provided to the Party being reviewed and, as a general rule, revised to reflect any comments the Party might have. Should the Party and the review team be unable to agree on the treatment of a comment, the secretariat will ensure that the comments of the Party are incorporated within a separate section of the summary of the review report; the summary of the review report should be distributed by the secretariat to all Parties and accredited observers to the Conference of the Parties; copies of the full review report will be available on request;

(e) That the subsidiary bodies should consider the in-depth review reports;

(f) To make the necessary arrangements to finance the review process in the budget for the permanent secretariat;

3. *Invites:*

(a) Parties to contribute to the review process by nominating experts for selection to participate in the review teams and to otherwise assist the secretariat as required;

(b) Parties to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the negotiating process to support the implementation of the present decision until the budget of the permanent secretariat is established;

(c) Intergovernmental organizations to make contributions of experts and/or resources, where possible, to assist the secretariat in undertaking the review of national communications under the Convention;

4. *Requests* the secretariat:

(a) To coordinate and facilitate the review process described in paragraph 2 above, including the organization of the in-depth reviews of individual national communications;

(b) To select, under the guidance of the Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies, the members of the in-depth review teams from among the names provided by the Parties and intergovernmental organizations, ensuring a balance of skills and expertise, of environmental and developmental perspectives and the necessary geographical balance among team members. It should also ensure that such experts do not participate in reviews of the national communications from their own country;

(c) To prepare, for consideration by the subsidiary bodies and by the Conference of the Parties at its second session, a second compilation and synthesis of first national communications, taking into account available review reports of individual national communications and including, as appropriate, the names of Parties in the narrative text, bearing in mind the facilitative and non-confrontational nature of the process;

(d) To examine means to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information among Parties, including forums in which a general and further analysis of specific and common aspects of national communications could be undertaken.

*10th plenary meeting
7 April 1995*

ANNEX I

Purpose of the review of first communications from Annex I Parties

The review should provide a thorough and comprehensive technical assessment of the implementation of the Convention commitments by individual Annex I Parties and Annex I Parties as a whole. Its purpose is to review, in a facilitative, non-confrontational, open and transparent manner, the information contained in the communications from Annex I Parties to ensure that the Conference of the Parties has accurate, consistent and relevant information at its disposal to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities, which are, inter alia:

(a) To assess the implementation of the Convention by the Parties, the overall effects and cumulative impacts of the measures taken and the extent to which progress towards the objective of the Convention is being achieved (Articles 7.2(e), 4.2(a) and (b) and 10.2(a));

(b) To contribute to the reviews by the Conference of the Parties of the adequacy of commitments and to its decisions on follow-up action (Articles 10.2(b) and 4.2(d));

(c) To examine the obligations of these Parties under Articles 4, 5, 6 and 12 of the Convention;

(d) To examine the institutional arrangements under the Convention;

(e) To promote and guide the development and refinement of methodologies (Article 7.2(d)) and guidelines to enhance the comparability and focus of further communications;

(f) To promote and facilitate the exchange of information on measures adopted by the Parties (Article 7.2(b)).

ANNEX II

Tasks of the review of first communications from Annex I Parties

The review process should undertake six major tasks:

1. Review key qualitative information and quantitative data points contained in national communications;
2. Review policies and measures described in national communications;
3. Assess the information contained in national communications against Convention commitments, and assess the extent to which progress towards the objective of the Convention is being achieved;
4. Describe expected progress in the limitation of emissions by sources and enhancement of removals by sinks of greenhouse gases, on the basis of information contained in national communications;
5. Describe expected progress in cooperation to prepare for adaptation;
6. Aggregate data across national communications with respect to inventories, projections, effects of measures and financial transfers, but without adding up the individual national totals for projections and the effects of measures.

ANNEX III

Outline for review reports from in-depth reviews of individual national communications from Annex I Parties

1. Introduction and summary

- Convention ratification date
- Date of receipt of national communication
- Dates of review and dates of comment period
- Members of the review team
- National circumstances
- Summary and findings
 - Compliance with guidelines
 - Review of key data points
 - Approach to greenhouse gas mitigation
 - Expected progress in greenhouse gas mitigation
 - Approach to adaptation
 - Expected progress on adaptation
 - Implementation of Convention commitments
 - Summary of comments offered by the Party (when not reflected in the text)

2. Inventories of anthropogenic emissions and removals

- Implementation of Convention commitments
- Approaches used
- CO₂ - review of key data points
- CH₄ - review of key data points
- N₂O - review of key data points
- Other gases - review of key data points
- Emissions from international marine and aviation transport

3. Policies and measures

- Implementation of Convention commitments
- Overview of measures by gas, sector and policy instrument
- Effects of individual measures, where possible
- Policies and measures under consideration or requiring international cooperation

4. Projections and effects of policies and measures
 - Implementation of Convention commitments
 - Approaches used
 - Review of key data points
5. Projected progress in greenhouse gas mitigation
6. Expected impacts of climate change
7. Adaptation measures
 - Implementation of Convention commitments
8. Financial assistance and technology transfer
 - Review of key data points
 - Implementation of Convention commitments
9. Research and systematic observation
 - Implementation of Convention commitments
10. Education, training and public awareness
 - Implementation of Convention commitments