

Decision 14/CP.1

Institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties, at its first session, in accordance with Article 8.3 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, shall designate a permanent secretariat and make arrangements for its functioning,

Having considered the related conclusions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change contained in the report on the work of its eleventh session,^{1/}

1. *Notes* with appreciation the advice of the Secretary-General,^{2/} the related comments of the Contact Group of the Committee^{3/} and the "Understanding on support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and cooperation with the Convention secretariat";^{4/}

2. *Decides* that the Convention secretariat shall be institutionally linked to the United Nations, while not being fully integrated in the work programme and management structure of any particular department or programme;

3. *Takes note of*, and provisionally accepts, the arrangements proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations for administrative support to the Convention secretariat;^{5/} *requests* the Executive Secretary to pursue the question of the allotment of overhead to defray administrative expenses as indicated in the advice of the Secretary-General;^{6/} and *requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to review the proposed arrangements at its first session in October 1995, on the basis of a report from the Executive Secretary, so that they may take effect from 1 January 1996;

^{1/} A/AC.237/91/Add.1, section II, conclusion (i).

^{2/} A/AC.237/79/Add.1.

^{3/} A/AC.237/79/Add.5.

^{4/} A/AC.237/79/Add.6.

^{5/} FCCC/CP/1995/5/Add.4.

^{6/} A/AC.237/79/Add.1, annex III, para. 15.

4. *Decides further* to review the functioning of the institutional linkage referred to in paragraph 2 above, not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Secretary-General, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties;

5. *Requests* the General Assembly, bearing in mind the institutional linkage of the Convention secretariat to the United Nations and the large number of States that are Parties to the Convention, to decide to finance from the regular programme budget of the United Nations the conference-servicing costs arising from sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies for the duration of the institutional linkage approved under paragraph 2 above;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the interim secretariat to communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the estimated financial implications resulting from paragraph 5 above for each of the years 1996 and 1997;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint, after consultation with the Conference of the Parties through its Bureau, the head of the Convention secretariat, with the title of Executive Secretary, for a three-year term of office starting on 1 January 1996; *notes* that the level of the head of the interim secretariat is D-2; and *requests* the President of the Conference of the Parties to consult with the Secretary-General on the level of remuneration of the head of the Convention secretariat and of the two other senior posts in the staffing table, whose programme functions include activities currently managed by staff at the D-1 level, taking into account the proposals made during the consultations on the Convention budget;

8. *Decides* to review, at its third session, the levels of the Executive Secretary and of the two other senior posts;

9. *Expresses* its appreciation for the support which has been generously provided to the Convention secretariat by the United Nations, especially the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, and invites the Executive Secretary to pursue further the provision of such support in the context of the understanding on support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and cooperation with the Convention secretariat.^{2/}

*10th plenary meeting
7 April 1995*

^{2/} A/AC.237/79/Add.6.