

Decision 1/CP.9

National communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 4, paragraph 2 (a) and (b), Article 12 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, as well as its decisions 9/CP.2, 6/CP.3, 11/CP.4, 3/CP.5, 33/CP.7 and 4/CP.8 on national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties),

Emphasizing that national communications and annual greenhouse gas inventories submitted by Annex I Parties are the main sources of information for reviewing the implementation of the Convention by these Parties, and that reports on in-depth reviews of these national communications provide important additional information for this purpose,

Noting that delays in or absence of submissions from some Parties, as well as delays in completion of in-depth reviews, hinder the assessment of implementation,

Noting with appreciation the work of the secretariat in synthesizing and presenting information contained in the above-mentioned documentation, as well as the reports on the compilation and synthesis of third national communications¹ and on the national greenhouse gas inventory data from Annex I Parties for the period 1990–2001,²

Recognizing that data now available on greenhouse gas emissions and other information submitted by Annex I Parties provide a basis for reviewing the implementation of the Convention by these Parties in the period 1990–2000, as well as indicators of progress towards implementing the Kyoto Protocol by Parties that intend to do so,

1. *Welcomes* the information that all Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) have implemented or planned a wide range of policies and measures to mitigate climate change, as well as economic reforms that contribute to that aim, and that integrated climate strategies have emerged in a number of these Parties;

2. *Notes* from the documents cited above that:

(a) The aggregate greenhouse gas emissions of Annex I Parties in 2000 were below their 1990 levels, despite the considerable increase of these emissions in several Parties, largely because of the decrease in emissions from Annex I Parties with economies in transition;

(b) By 2000, emissions of Annex I Parties in the major sectors of energy industries and transport had increased above 1990 levels;

(c) Emissions of Annex I Parties from international aviation had increased by more than 40 per cent by the end of the period 1990–2000;

(d) Projections provided by Annex I Parties indicate that, in the absence of additional measures, the aggregate emissions of these Parties, including emissions of Parties with economies in transition, are expected to increase in the period 2000–2010;

3. *Concludes* that further action is needed by Annex I Parties to implement policies and measures that will contribute to modifying longer-term trends in anthropogenic emissions, consistent

¹ FCCC/SBI/2003/7 and Add.1–4.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2003/14.

with the objective of the Convention and the commitments of these Parties, and strongly urges these Parties to intensify efforts to that end;

4. *Urges* those Annex I Parties that have not submitted their national communications in accordance with decision 11/CP.4 or their annual greenhouse gas inventories in accordance with decision 3/CP.5 to do so as a matter of priority;

5. *Stresses* the need for Parties included in Annex II to the Convention to provide detailed information, including in their national communications, on their assistance to developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in meeting costs of adaptation to those adverse effects;

6. *Encourages* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider ways of improving the transparency of greenhouse gas projections in time to contribute to the preparation of fourth national communications, taking into account the relevant conclusion of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its nineteenth session on its work on methodological issues;³

7. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a report summarizing information available from in-depth reviews of national communications from Annex I Parties for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session;

8. *Further requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to organize a workshop in the second half of 2004 in order to facilitate timely submission of fourth national communications, address problems encountered by Parties in preparing national communications and encourage the exchange of views among technical experts on the comparability and transparency of the information in national communications.

*8th plenary meeting
12 December 2003*

³ See report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its nineteenth session, FCCC/SBSTA/2003/15, paragraph 14 (f).