

Decision 5/CP.9**Further guidance to an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the operation of the Special Climate Change Fund**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of, in particular, Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, and Article 11, of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 4/CP.7, 5/CP.7, 7/CP.7 and 7/CP.8,

Noting the views of Parties on prioritized activities, programmes and measures to be funded under the Special Climate Change Fund,

Stressing the importance of bilateral and multilateral funding in support of the implementation of activities, programmes and measures in the climate change area,

Noting that the Special Climate Change Fund supports the implementation of the Convention, contributes to the achievement of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Millennium Development Goals, and contributes to the integration of climate change considerations into development activities,

1. *Decides* that:

(a) The Special Climate Change Fund should serve as a catalyst to leverage additional resources from bilateral and other multilateral sources;

(b) Activities to be funded should be country-driven, cost-effective and integrated into national sustainable development and poverty-reduction strategies;

(c) Adaptation activities to address the adverse impacts of climate change shall have top priority for funding;

(d) Technology transfer and its associated capacity-building activities shall also be essential areas to receive funding from the Special Climate Change Fund;

2. *Decides also* that the implementation of adaptation activities shall be supported through the Special Climate Change Fund, taking into account national communications or national adaptation programmes of action, and other relevant information provided by the applicant Party, and include:

(a) Implementation of adaptation activities where sufficient information is available to warrant such activities, inter alia, in the areas of water resources management, land management, agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems, including mountain ecosystems, and integrated coastal zone management;

(b) Improving the monitoring of diseases and vectors affected by climate change, and related forecasting and early warning systems, and in this context improving disease control and prevention;

(c) Supporting capacity-building, including institutional capacity, for preventive measures, planning, preparedness and management of disasters relating to climate change, including contingency planning, in particular, for droughts and floods in areas prone to extreme weather events;

(d) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing national and regional centres and information networks for rapid response to extreme weather events, utilizing information technology as much as possible;

3. *Decides further* that resources from the Special Climate Change Fund shall be used to fund technology transfer activities, programmes and measures that are complementary to those currently funded by the Global Environment Facility taking into account national communications or any other relevant documents in accordance with decision 4/CP.7 and its annex containing the framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Convention, in the following priority areas:

- (a) Implementation of the results of technology needs assessments;
- (b) Technology information;
- (c) Capacity-building for technology transfer;
- (d) Enabling environments;

4. *Decides further* that activities under paragraph 2 (c) and (d) in decision 7/CP.7 are also to be funded by the Special Climate Change Fund and to this effect invites Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 15 September 2004, further views on activities, programmes and measures in these areas for further consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its twenty-first session, in order for the Conference of the Parties to take a decision on this matter at its tenth session;

5. *Requests* the entity entrusted with the operation of the fund to arrange expedited access to the Special Climate Change Fund in keeping with current practices of the Global Environment Facility, taking into account the need for adequate resources to implement eligible activities, programmes and measures;

6. *Invites* the entity entrusted with the operation of the Special Climate Change Fund to make the necessary arrangements to mobilize resources to make the fund operational without delay;

7. *Requests* the entity referred to in paragraph 5 above to include in its report to the Conference of the Parties, at its tenth session, the specific steps it has undertaken to implement this decision.

*9th plenary meeting
12 December 2003*