

## **Decision 3/CP.5**

### **Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular Article 4, Article 10.2 and Article 12,

*Recalling* its decision 3/CP.1 on preparation and submission of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, 4/CP.1 on methodological issues, 9/CP.2 on communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention: guidelines, schedule and process for consideration and 11/CP.4 on national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention,

*Recognizing* that anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol should be reported in a transparent, consistent, comparable, complete and accurate way,

*Noting* that the revised guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, annexed to decision 9/CP.2, need to be updated to improve the transparency, consistency, comparability, completeness and accuracy of the reported national greenhouse gas inventories and other information,

*Noting* the ongoing process of improvement in guidance to Parties on the reporting of greenhouse gases inventories, in particular the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change related to good practice in national inventory preparation, including managing uncertainty,

1. *Adopts* the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Decides* that Parties included in Annex I to the Convention should use these UNFCCC guidelines on annual inventories for reporting inventories due by 15 April each year, beginning in the year 2000;

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<sup>1</sup> See FCCC/CP/1999/7.

3. *Invites* Parties included in Annex I to the Convention to submit separately, by 1 July 2001, information to the secretariat on experiences with using these guidelines, in particular the common reporting format, in the years 2000-2001;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to prepare a report on the use of these guidelines, in particular the common reporting format, taking into account, *inter alia*, experiences gained by Parties in using the guidelines, and by the secretariat in processing the common reporting format, and input from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its fifteenth session in considering possible revisions to these guidelines;

5. *Decides* that revisions to these guidelines, particularly the common reporting format, shall be considered by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its fifteenth session with a view to submitting a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session.

*9th plenary meeting  
4 November 1999*