

Decision 31/CP.7

**Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications
from non-Annex I Parties**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular its Article 4, paragraphs 3 and 7, Article 10, paragraph 2(a) and Article 12, paragraphs 1 and 5,

Recalling also its decisions on communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), in particular decisions 10/CP.2, 11/CP.2, 2/CP.4, 12/CP.4, 8/CP.5,

Recognizing that the preparation of national communications is a continuing process,

Acknowledging that the sharing of national, subregional and regional experiences is important in the process of improving the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties,

Noting the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties, including the least developed countries, to share national, subregional and regional experiences in the preparation of national communications,

1. *Decides* that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) shall have the objective of improving the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties;
2. *Decides also* that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the annex to decision 29/CP.7 on the establishment of a least developed country (LDC) expert group, at least one member of the Consultative Group Experts from least developed countries and at least one member of the Consultative Group Experts from Annex II Parties shall also be members of the LDC expert group, in order to establish a link on issues related to adaptation;
3. *Decides further* that in addition to the mandate contained in the annex to decision 8/CP.5, it shall carry out the following:
 - (a) Identify and assess technical problems and constraints that have affected the preparation of initial national communications by non-Annex I Parties that have yet to complete them, and make recommendations for consideration by the subsidiary bodies;
 - (b) Provide input to the draft improved guidelines for the preparation of national communications of non-Annex I Parties referred to in paragraph 1(b) of decision 32/CP.7;
4. *Decides* that the Consultative Group of Experts shall conduct two workshops in the year 2002, assuming the availability of funds, with the objective of sharing experiences to

ensure adequate coverage of the issues described in paragraph 3 above; experts and/or resource persons for these workshops will be drawn from the roster of experts of the UNFCCC secretariat, taking into account geographical balance and limited to 40 persons from non-Annex I Parties;

5. *Decides also* that in the year 2002, and to the extent possible, the secretariat will organize a meeting of the Consultative Group Experts, back-to-back with a meeting of the LDC expert group, in order to ensure an exchange of views;

6. *Decides also* that the mandate and terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts shall be reviewed at the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties.

*8th plenary meeting
9 November 2001*