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Agenda item 12(b)

National communications

National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Proposal by the President

Draft decision -/CP.18

Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3 and 7, and Article 12, paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 7,

Also recalling decisions 8/CP.5, 3/CP.8, 17/CP.8, 8/CP.11, 5/CP.15, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 14/CP.17,

Acknowledging that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of, and preparation of, national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications,

Emphasizing the importance of providing relevant technical advice and support for the process of the preparation of national communications, as well as the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties to share experiences of this process,

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

Also recognizing that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention will also play an important role in facilitating technical advice and support for the preparation and submission of the first biennial update report,

1. *Decides* to extend for a term of one year, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention including its current membership;
2. *Also decides* that the Consultative Group of Experts, in fulfilling its mandate, shall function in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the annex to decision 5/CP.15;
3. *Requests* the Consultative Group of Experts to develop, at its first meeting in 2013, a work programme for 2013, taking into account the current and future needs of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, the provisions under the Convention and the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
4. *Invites* Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other Parties included in Annex I to the Convention in a position to do so to provide financial resources to enable the Consultative Group of Experts to implement the activities planned in accordance with its work programme in a timely manner;
5. *Decides* to forward the text of a draft decision contained in the annex to this decision, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-eighth session, with a view to recommending a draft decision on this matter, for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its nineteenth session.

Annex

[English only]

Draft decision text

[Draft decision -/CP.18]

Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

[The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3 and 7, and Article 12, paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 7,

Also recalling decisions on 8/CP.5, 3/CP.8, 17/CP.8, 8/CP.11, 5/CP.15, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 14/CP.17,

Acknowledging that the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention has made a substantial contribution to improving the process of preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) by providing technical advice and support and therefore enhancing the capacity of such Parties to prepare their national communications,

Recalling decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 60, that decided to enhance the reporting in national communications from non-Annex I Parties, and emphasizing that the CGE could provide also technical advice and support for the preparation of biennial update reports,

Having taken note of, as provided by the secretariat, the estimated budgetary implications of the actions requested of the secretariat in paragraph 10 below and other actions contained in the annex to this decision,

Also having taken note that the requirements for additional resources for the implementation of the relevant actions referred to in paragraph 10 below and in the annex to this decision cannot be met by the approved core budget of the secretariat for the biennium 2012–2013,

Emphasizing the importance of providing relevant technical advice and support for the process of preparation of national communications and biennial update reports, as well as the importance of providing a forum for non-Annex I Parties to share experiences of this process,

[Recognizing further that developing countries require further support in the process to enhanced reporting,]

Recognizing that the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports is a continuing process,

1. Decides to continue the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention [for a period of [three years from 2013 to 2015][four years from 2013 to 2016] [five years from 2013 to 2017]][as a permanent expert group of the Convention];

2. Also decides that the Consultative Group of Experts, in fulfilling its mandate, shall function in accordance with the [revised] terms of reference contained in annex I to this decision;
3. Further decides that membership of the Consultative Group of Experts [should be increased from 24 to 28 with four additional members from Annex I Parties to the Convention (Annex I Parties)] [shall be the same as in decision 3/CP.8, annex, paragraphs 3–8] [should be expanded from 24 to 26 members in order to include one member from non-Annex I countries of Eastern European Group and an additional one member from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties)];
4. Decides that the Consultative Group of Experts shall be composed of experts [drawn from the UNFCCC roster of experts] with expertise in at least one of the following chapters of national communications or biennial update reports: greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation [financing, MRV/NAMAs, technology] and other matters related to the process of preparation of national communications and biennial update reports;
5. Encourages regional groups, in nominating their experts to the Consultative Group of Experts, to make every effort to ensure balanced representation in the areas of expertise indicated in paragraph 4 above [as well as taking into account gender balance in accordance with decision 36/CP.7];
6. Requests the secretariat to publish the list of the membership of the Consultative Group of Experts including their respective area of expertise and experience relating to national communications and/or biennial update reports, and notify the Subsidiary Body for Implementation of such appointments;
7. Further requests the Consultative Group of Experts to report on the progress of its work to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation [at its second meeting of each year] [at the SBI meeting during the COP session];
8. Decides to [initiate] review, at its [twenty-first] [twentieth] [twenty-fifth] session, [the term and mandate][mandate and terms of reference] of the Consultative Group of Experts [and the need for the continuation of the group], with a view to adopting a decision thereon [at the same session];
9. Requests the secretariat to facilitate the work of the Consultative Group of Experts by:
 - (a) Organizing meetings and workshops of the Consultative Group of Experts and compiling reports of its meetings and workshops for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation;
 - (b) Providing technical support to the Consultative Group of Experts as required, particularly in the areas of national greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation assessment, research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness, technology transfer and capacity-building, [and also mitigation actions and assessments relating to institutional arrangements, assessment of gaps and needs, support received, domestic MRV, projections] as they relate to the process of and the preparation of national communications [or biennial update reports];
 - (c) Liaising with other relevant multilateral programmes and organizations to provide additional [financial and] technical support [disseminating the information materials and technical reports prepared by the Consultative Group of Experts to Parties, relevant experts and organizations] to the Consultative Group of Experts as required related to the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports;

(d) [Providing technical and logistical support, as required [by committees, panels or working groups established to serve as technical experts for its functions including ICA;], [to the Consultative Group of Experts in [serving as] [building capacity for] the team of technical experts for international consultation and analysis;]]

10. [[Invites]][Urges] Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other Parties [included in Annex I to the Convention] in a position to do so to [provide][contribute] financial resources to enhance the support by the secretariat to the work of the Consultative Group of Experts and to support the full operation of the work of the Consultative Group of Experts.

11. Requests that the actions of the secretariat called for in this decision be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

Appendix I

Terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

1. [The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) shall have the objective[s] of:

(a) Improving the process of and preparation of national communications and biennial update reports from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), by providing technical advice and support to non-Annex I Parties;

(b) Building capacity of the team of technical experts referred to in decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 3, for undertaking technical analysis of biennial update reports (BURs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) under international consultation and analysis (ICA) process.

(c) Placeholder for objective(s) related to the role of CGE in technical analysis.

2. The CGE, in fulfilling its mandate, shall:

(a) [Identify and provide technical assistance regarding problems and constraints that have affected the process of and the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties;]

(b) [Provide technical assistance and support to non-Annex I Parties to facilitate the process of and preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports, with a view to improving the accuracy, consistency and transparency of the information in their national communications and biennial update reports, particularly with respect to reporting on national GHG inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, mitigation, and cross-cutting issues (research and systematic observation, technology transfer, capacity-building, education, training and public awareness, information and networking and financial and technical support)];

(c) [Provide technical advice to non-Annex I Parties to facilitate the development and long-term sustainability of processes of the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports, including the elaboration of appropriate institutional arrangements and the establishment and maintenance of national technical teams, for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports, including GHG inventories, on a continuous basis;]

(d) [Provide technical advice and assistance to non-Annex I Parties, upon request, on preparation and submission of their nationally appropriate mitigation actions;]

(e) [Provide recommendations, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports from non-Annex I, taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports;]

(f) Provide technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties.]

(g) Provide technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, on the provision of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations into relevant

social, economic and environmental policies and actions, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 1(f), of the Convention;

(h) [Provide information on [financial] support available and technical advice to non-Annex I Parties, and extract lessons learned and best practices on addressing constraints and gaps and related financial, technical, and capacity building needs, in particular on adaptation from non-Annex I national communications and biennial update reports;]

(i) *Placeholder for ICA capacity building elements;*

(j) *Placeholder for any role of CGE in technical analysis*

3. The CGE shall, in defining and implementing its work programme, take into account other relevant work by expert groups under the Convention [and should also engage, upon request, with the Adaptation Committee, Climate Technology Centre and Network, Technology Executive Committee, and the Durban Forum for In-Depth Discussion on Capacity-Building] in order to avoid duplication of work.

4. [In the light of the new mandate, CGE shall include in its work plan up to the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, the following task: to develop and agree on its revised rules of procedure, in view of its new activities, and recommend them to the Conference of the Parties for adoption.]

4alt. [The Consultative Group of Experts shall develop, at its first meeting, a work programme for 20XX–20XX.]

5. The CGE shall forward recommendations on matters indicated in paragraph 2 above for consideration by the SBI as appropriate.]]