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Agenda item 9

ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

Addendum

Recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

The SBSTA, at its sixteenth session, decided to recommend the following draft decision to the Conference of the Parties for adoption at its eighth session:

Draft decision -/CP.8

Work programme on Article 6

[The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 4.1 and 6 of the Convention,

Recalling also its decisions 2/CP.7, 3/CP.7 and 6/CP.7,

Recalling further Agenda 21 and relevant reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and recognizing the importance of Article 6 in engaging all stakeholders and major groups in the development and implementation of policies related to climate change, and consistent with sustainable development goals,

Recognizing the need to establish a country-driven work programme that enhances cooperation, coordination and exchange of information among governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, as well as the private sector,

Recognizing also the need for adequate resources to ensure effective implementation of activities under Article 6, and the need for strengthening or establishing, as appropriate, national climate change secretariats or national focal points,

Having considered the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its sixteenth session,

1. *Adopts* the five-year work programme on Article 6 contained in the annex to this decision;
2. *Decides* to undertake a review of the work programme in 2007, with an intermediate review of progress in 2005, to evaluate its effectiveness in meeting its objectives;
3. *Requests* Parties to prepare reports within their national communications on their efforts to implement the work programme for the purpose of reviewing the programme in 2005 and 2007;
4. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue their activities relevant to Article 6 and invites them to develop programmatic responses to the five-year work programme,
5. *Decides*¹ that the GEF, as an entity operating the financial mechanism of the Convention, shall provide financial resources to Parties to help implementing this work programme, in particular for the preparation of national strategies.

¹ In accordance with the adoption by the SBI of the SBSTA recommendation contained in FCCC/SBSTA/2002/L.3, para. 9.

Annex

WORK PROGRAMME ON ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION

Observations

1. The implementation of all elements of Article 6 of the Convention, including education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation, will contribute to meeting the objective of the Convention.
2. While Parties are responsible for the implementation of Article 6, it is the choice of each Party to assess how these elements could help that Party implement the Convention most effectively and efficiently. The capacity to implement Article 6 activities will vary among countries, as will the priority thematic areas and target audiences, and the preferred method of programme delivery.
3. Regional, subregional and international cooperation can enhance the collective ability of Parties to implement the Convention, as well as the ability of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to its implementation. It also enhances synergies between, and helps to avoid duplication of effort among, different conventions. It can further improve the effectiveness of activities and facilitate their support and funding.
4. Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, as well as the private sector, are already working actively to raise awareness of climate change, its causes, impacts and solutions. In particular, many governments are already implementing measures, such as local pollution strategies, that could be linked to Article 6 activities. However, the lack of adequate financial resources has often prevented some Parties to implement such activities.
5. It is important to learn more from non-Annex I Parties regarding the needs and gaps in their Article 6 activities, so that Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations could most effectively target their efforts to provide appropriate support.
6. The results of activities under Article 6 do not lend themselves readily to quantification or measurement. This makes reporting on this theme challenging and makes cross-Party assessment difficult.

Guiding elements

7. The Article 6 work programme shall be guided by:
 - (a) A country-driven approach;
 - (b) Cost-effectiveness;
 - (c) Promotion of partnerships, networks and synergies, in particular, synergies between conventions;
 - (d) An interdisciplinary approach;
 - (e) A holistic, systematic approach;
 - (f) The principles of sustainable development.

Objectives

8. The objectives of the work programme on Article 6 are:
- (a) To promote and facilitate the implementation of Article 6;
 - (b) To assist Parties in the implementation of programmes and the development of national strategies;
 - (c) To promote and facilitate the exchange of information and material, and the sharing of experience and good practices;
 - (d) To enhance cooperation and coordination of activities at international and regional levels, including the identification of partners and networks;
 - (e) To strengthen national institutions and capacities, particularly in developing countries;
 - (f) To enhance public participation in, and public access to information on, activities to address climate change and its effects, and in developing and implementing adequate responses.

Parties

9. As part of their national programmes and activities in implementing the Convention, Parties could, inter alia:
- (a) Develop institutional and technical capacity to identify gaps and needs for the implementation of Article 6, assess the effectiveness of Article 6 activities, and consider the linkages between Article 6 activities, implementation of policies and measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change, and other commitments under the Convention, such as technology transfer and capacity-building;
 - (b) Prepare assessments of needs in the area of the implementation of Article 6, specific to national circumstances, including the use of surveys and other relevant instruments to determine target audiences and potential partnerships;
 - (c) Develop national strategies, within their respective capacities and priorities, to guide and facilitate the implementation of Article 6;
 - (d) Designate, and provide support to, a national focal point for Article 6 activities and assign specific responsibilities. These responsibilities could include the identification of areas for possible international cooperation and opportunities for strengthening synergies with other conventions;
 - (e) Develop a directory of organizations and individuals, with an indication of their experience and expertise relevant to Article 6 activities, with a view to building active networks involved in the implementation these activities;
 - (f) Seek opportunities and develop strategies to disseminate widely relevant information on climate change. Measures could include translation into appropriate languages and distribution of popularized versions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Third Assessment Report (IPCC TAR) and other key documents on climate change;
 - (g) Develop criteria for identifying and disseminating information on good practices for Article 6 activities, in accordance with national circumstances;

- (h) Increase the availability of copyright-free and translated materials on climate change, in accordance with laws and standards related to the protection of copyrighted materials;
- (i) Enhance efforts to develop curricula and strengthen teacher training as effective methods of ensuring that climate change issues are addressed at all educational levels and across disciplines;
- (j) Seek input and public participation, including participation by youth and other groups, in the formulation and implementation of efforts to address climate change and encourage the involvement and participation of representatives of all stakeholders and major groups in the climate change negotiation process;
- (k) Inform the public about causes of climate change and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as actions that can be taken at all levels to address climate change;
- (l) Share the findings contained in national communications and national action plans or domestic programmes on climate change with the general public and all stakeholders.

Intergovernmental organizations

10. Intergovernmental organizations, including convention secretariats, are invited, inter alia:

- (a) To continue supporting efforts to implement activities under Article 6 through their regular programmes, and through specific programmes focused on climate change, including, as appropriate, through the provision and dissemination of information as well as through the provision of financial and technical support;
- (b) To develop programmatic responses to the five-year Article 6 work programme and, following consultations with the UNFCCC secretariat, to communicate to the SBSTA through the secretariat such responses and progress achieved, for the purpose of reviewing the programme and evaluating its effectiveness in 2005 and 2007;
- (c) To strengthen collaboration with, and enhance involvement of, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, with a view to ensuring coordinated support to Parties in their activities related to Article 6 and avoiding duplication of work.

Non-governmental organizations

11. Non-governmental organizations are encouraged to continue their activities related to Article 6 and are invited:

- (a) To provide relevant information to the secretariat in a coordinated manner, and informing their national focal point as appropriate, on progress achieved for the purpose of reviewing the Article 6 work programme and evaluating its effectiveness;
- (b) To consider ways to enhance cooperation between non-governmental organizations from Annex I and non-Annex I countries, as well as coordination of activities between intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and governments.

Secretariat

12. In accordance with Article 8 of the Convention, the secretariat is requested to facilitate efforts under the Article 6 work programme and, in particular:

(a) To compile the views from Parties, as well as information received from intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on improved guidelines for reporting on Article 6 in national communications for consideration by the SBSTA at its eighteenth session;

(b) To prepare reports to the SBSTA on progress achieved by Parties in implementing Article 6, based on information contained in national communications or other sources of information. These reports will be issued regularly, and in particular for the interim progress review in 2005 and the review in 2007;

(c) To facilitate coordinated inputs into the five-year Article 6 work programme by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(d) To develop a network of key national, regional and global institutions working on Article 6 issues, including national focal points on Article 6, and continue work on the structure and content of an information clearing house supporting the work of such a network, and identify institutions that could host and provide regular support for such a clearing house;

(e) To prepare a paper on possible options for increasing the participation of youth and other groups in meetings of the Conference of the Parties for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its eighteenth session;

Support and funding

13. Parties will need to determine the most efficient and cost-effective way to implement Article 6 activities. They are encouraged to create partnerships with other Parties, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders, to facilitate the implementation of these activities, including the identification of priority areas for support and funding.

14. In implementing Article 6 activities at the national level, Parties are encouraged to make full use of the existing opportunities available through the Global Environment Facility, consistent with decision 6/CP.7, paragraph 1(h).²

15. The Financial Mechanism of the Convention shall be invited to make financial resources available to Parties to implement this work programme.]

² Decision 6/CP.7 paragraph 1(h), states:

“1. *Decides* that, in accordance with Articles 4.3, 4.5 and 11.1 of the Convention, the GEF, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism, should provide financial resources to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States among them, for the following activities, including those identified in paragraph 7 of decision 5/CP.7:

(h) Undertaking more in-depth public awareness and education activities and community involvement and participation in climate change issues”.