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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Article 6 of the Convention

Compilation of information on progress achieved in implementing Article 6 of the Convention

Submissions from Parties

Addendum

1. In addition to the 10 submissions contained in document FCCC/SBI/2004/MISC.5, one further submission has been received (on 12 August 2004).
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is attached and reproduced* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing

* This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

SUBMISSION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Review of the New Delhi Work Programme for Article 6- UK Activities

The following summary gives details of activities undertaken or supported by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in the UK which fall under the remit of Article 6 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change – Education, training and public awareness. The activities described here are in addition to those listed in chapter 8 of the UK's Third National Communication (2001).

1. Education/Public Awareness

Research on Public Behaviour

In addition to the report "Carrots, sticks and sermons" on influencing public behaviour for environmental goals by Demos/Green Alliance, behaviour change has been considered in new and desk research done for the UK's Economic and Social Research Council, the Sustainable Development Research Network and Defra; and explored in presentations and events within the "Taking it on" consultation on the UK's sustainable development strategy which will report early next year.

That research suggests that behaviour is complex, and reflects infrastructure and institutions as much as habits, social norms, peer pressures and psychological motivations. It may therefore not always be rational, or open to change by rational persuasion, and a package of measures is usually necessary to influence behaviour.

Information on its own is unlikely to achieve change, and it can not be assumed that information necessarily raises awareness ; or that awareness leads to action. A recurrent theme in the research and discussions has been the significant gap between claimed values and attitudes and actual personal action.

Behaviour can also be "locked in", or determined, by how products and services are designed, produced, used and discarded ; and the context in which this takes place ; and measures may be needed to address both every stage of the product cycle starting with the initial design and materials used, as well as infrastructure and institutions and perceptions of concepts like "comfort" or "cleanliness".

Any new climate change awareness campaign by the UK will need to take these findings into account.

Public Awareness Campaign

The 'Are you doing your bit?' publicity campaign (details in UK's Third National Communication) ran from 1998-2001 and was designed to motivate people to take action to benefit their local and global environment by making small but important behavioural changes in their everyday lives. The programme was effectively terminated in 2001 after funding was diverted to the Foot and Mouth Outbreak in the UK.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is leading work to develop a new climate change communications programme. With the Department for Trade and Industry, the Carbon Trust, the Energy Saving Trust and the Environment Agency, we have formed a project

steering group to take this forward. Earlier this year we let a contract to a consultant called COI Communications to advise on a two phase project – initially focussing on better coordination of existing publicly-funded communications activity, and then developing the case for a major new campaign. Our Departmental Submission for the 2004 Spending Review includes a bid for new resources for this project from 2006/07. We are currently awaiting the outcome of this bid.

In addition to communications by central Government, there are additional activities led or funded by the Devolved Administrations (such as the Scottish "do a little, change a lot" campaign), and by regional authorities (such as the "CRed" carbon reduction initiative, which is funded by the East of England Development Agency).

Carbon Trust/Energy Saving Trust

The UK Government provides funding to the Energy Saving Trust (a Government funded non-profit organisation) and the Carbon Trust (an independent company which receives money out of the UK Climate Change Levy), which have active programmes to promote public awareness of the importance of reducing energy use.

The Carbon Trust has advice on saving energy for business through its website and hosts a Government funded programme called "Action Energy", which is designed to help businesses save money through energy efficiency. The programme includes a telephone helpline, information packs, free site surveys for businesses with over £50,000 in energy bills a year, and low interest loans to companies to help them buy more efficient equipment.

The Energy Saving Trust focusses on households, small businesses and the road transport sector. For households it gives tips through its website on saving energy in the home, advice on energy efficient appliances, and data on available grants to invest in efficient products. The Government funded Transport Energy Programme gives advice to individuals on cleaner vehicles, how to increase the efficiency of their vehicles and apply for grants. The Energy Saving Trust also offers assistance to schools and local authorities on energy efficiency practices.

Awareness of Impacts and Adaptation

The Government set up the UK Climate Impacts Programme¹ (UKCIP) in 1997 to help private and public sector organisations assess their vulnerability to climate change so that they can plan their own adaptation strategies. While the target for this programme is private and public sector stakeholders, it has also achieved a certain amount of public awareness via the website and publications, although its communications strategy does not include targeting the public at large.

We are concerned about raising awareness of the need for adaptation and are taking steps to address this in the UK, and EU. For example, we are encouraging partnership working and stakeholder-driven research to prepare for climate change. As one example, the ESPACE project (funded by the INTERREG IIIB North West Europe Programme & the UK ODPM) involves partners from UK, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany in a four-year project promoting awareness of adapting to climate change and looking at how adaptation can be incorporated within spatial planning mechanisms at local, regional, national and European levels.

¹ <http://www.ukcip.org.uk>

Climate Change Communications Officer

The Climate, Energy and Environment Risk Directorate of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has funded a new communications officer, responsible for drafting articles, speeches, coordinating the communications efforts of officials and scientists to the public and ensuring attractive and topical departmental web-presentation. Much of his work will be spent coordinating communications efforts in the run up to and during the G8 Presidency and the EU Presidency.

2. Training

China-UK Collaboration project: Impacts of climate change on Chinese Agriculture

One aim of this project was to build capacity for this type of research within China by conducting training courses and facilitating academic exchanges between UK and Chinese scientists. The project team consisted of researchers from AMI and other Chinese academic institutions, supported by partners from the UK.

The following institutions supported the project by hosting training visits and study tours for Chinese researchers visiting the UK: ADAS, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Centre for Global Atmospheric Modelling - Reading University, Cranfield University at Silsoe, Environmental Change Institute and Department of Earth Sciences – Oxford University, Forestry Commission, Hadley Centre – Meteorological Office – Exeter, IACR – Rothamsted, Institute of grassland and Environmental Research, John Innes Centre, School of Earth, Environmental and Geographical Sciences – University of Edinburgh, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research – University of East Anglia, UK Climate Impacts Programme, Unit for Landscape Monitoring - Cambridge University.

PRECIS

Defra, with DFID and UNDP, have funded the development of a regional climate model (PRECIS) that can be easily applied to any part of the world to generate detailed climate change predictions. PRECIS was developed by the Hadley Centre (part of the Meteorological Office) and has been made freely available to groups of developing countries so that they can develop climate change scenarios at national centres of expertise. The model is designed to run on a PC and can be applied to any region of the globe.

A scientist from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences spent a year at the Hadley Centre learning how to set up, use and analyse results from the PRECIS model in 2002. He is now using this in Beijing as part of a Defra funded Programme on the impact of climate change on agriculture.

Hadley Centre scientists visited the Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune, in 2001 and 2002, to give training on the PRECIS model. They have run a number of experiments including validation using the ECMWF re-analysis, baseline recent climate and predictions for SRES A2 and B2 emissions. The results will be used in the Defra funded UK-India climate change impacts programme.