

Decision 5/CP.7

Implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention (decision 3/CP.3 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol)¹

The Conference of the Parties,

Determined to protect the climate system for present and future generations,

Recalling its decisions 11/CP.1, 3/CP.3, 1/CP.4, 5/CP.4 and 12/CP.5,

Recalling further its decision 5/CP.6, containing the Bonn Agreements on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

Recognizing the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties referred to in Article 4, paragraph 8, of the Convention, and the specific needs and special situations of the least developed countries referred to in Article 4, paragraph 9,

Recognizing that low-lying and other small island countries, countries with low-lying coastal, arid and semi-arid areas or areas liable to floods, drought and desertification, and developing countries with fragile mountainous ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change,

Recognizing the special difficulties of those countries, especially developing countries, whose economies are particularly dependent on fossil fuel production, use and exportation, as a consequence of action taken to limit greenhouse gas emissions,

Reaffirming that Parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and that, accordingly, the developed country Parties should take the lead in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof,

Reaffirming that the specific needs and special circumstances of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and of those Parties, especially developing country Parties, which would have to bear a disproportionate or abnormal burden under the Convention, should be given full consideration,

Affirming that responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner with a view to avoiding adverse impacts on the latter, taking into full account the legitimate priority needs of developing countries for the achievement of sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty,

¹ Paragraphs 13, 17, and 18 of the draft decision contained in document FCCC/CP/2001/5/Add.1 have been omitted from the final text of this decision, since their content is subsumed in decisions 6/CP.7, 28/CP.7 and 29/CP.7 and by the conclusions contained in section V.D. of document FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4.

Acknowledging the efforts already made by Parties to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries, with regard to adaptation,

Acknowledging the need to sensitize policy makers and the general public in Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention to climate change and its effects, in accordance with Article 6(a) of the Convention,

Having considered the report,² in two parts, on the two workshops referred to in decision 12/CP.5,

Noting the many persistent uncertainties highlighted by those workshops, particularly with regard to the impact of response measures,

Insisting that the extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments will depend on the effective implementation by the developed country Parties of their commitments relating to financial resources and transfer of technology and will also take fully into account that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of the developing country Parties,

Acknowledging that the impact of the implementation of response measures will differ significantly from country to country, depending on each country's unique national circumstances, including the structure of its economy, trade and investment, natural resource endowment, social system, legal regime and population growth rate,

Recognizing that the least developed country Parties are among the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and in particular that widespread poverty limits their adaptive capacity,

Acknowledging that the human, infrastructural and economic conditions of the least developed countries severely limit their capacities to participate effectively in the climate change process,

Noting that many of the least developed country Parties do not have the capacity to prepare and submit national communications in the foreseeable future,

I. ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

1. *Asserts* the importance of a country-driven approach that allows developing country Parties to pursue the specific activities most appropriate to their unique national circumstances;
2. *Insists* that action related to adaptation follow an assessment and evaluation process, based on national communications and/or other relevant information, so as to prevent maladaptation and to ensure that adaptation actions are environmentally sound and will produce real benefits in support of sustainable development;

² FCCC/SB/2000/2.

3. *Encourages* Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) to provide information, including in their national communications, and/or any other relevant information sources, on their specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change;
4. *Stresses* the need for Parties included in Annex II to the Convention (Annex II Parties) to provide detailed information, including in their national communications, on support programmes to meet the specific needs and circumstances of developing country Parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change;
5. *Encourages* Parties to exchange information on their experience regarding the adverse effects of climate change and on measures to meet their needs arising from these adverse effects;
6. *Underlines* the importance of the ongoing work of the secretariat in compiling and disseminating information on methods and tools for evaluating impacts and adaptation strategies;
7. *Decides* that the implementation of the following activities shall be supported through the Global Environment Facility (in accordance with decision 6/CP.7) and other bilateral and multilateral sources:
 - (a) Information and methodologies:
 - (i) Improving data collection and information gathering, as well as their analysis, interpretation and dissemination to end-users;
 - (ii) Integrating climate change considerations into sustainable development planning;
 - (iii) Providing training in specialized fields relevant to adaptation such as climate and hydroclimate studies, geographical information systems, environmental impact assessment, modelling, integrated coastal zone management, soil and water conservation and soil restoration;
 - (iv) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing national and regional systematic observation and monitoring networks (sea-level rise, climate and hydrological monitoring stations, fire hazards, land degradation, floods, cyclones and droughts);
 - (v) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing national and regional centres and institutions for the provision of research, training, education and scientific and technical support in specialized fields relevant to climate change, utilizing information technology as much as possible;
 - (vi) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing national and regional research programmes on climate variability and climate change, oriented towards improving knowledge of the climate system at the regional level, and creating national and regional scientific capability;

- (vii) Supporting education and training in, and public awareness of, climate change related issues, for example through workshops and information dissemination;
- (b) Vulnerability and adaptation:
 - (i) Supporting enabling activities for vulnerability and adaptation assessment;
 - (ii) Enhancing technical training for integrated climate change impact and vulnerability and adaptation assessments across all relevant sectors, and environmental management related to climate change;
 - (iii) Enhancing capacity, including institutional capacity, to integrate adaptation into sustainable development programmes;
 - (iv) Promoting the transfer of adaptation technologies;
 - (v) Establishing pilot or demonstration projects to show how adaptation planning and assessment can be practically translated into projects that will provide real benefits, and may be integrated into national policy and sustainable development planning, on the basis of information provided in the national communications from non-Annex I Parties and/or other relevant sources, and of the staged approach endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in its decision 11/CP.1;
 - (vi) Supporting capacity building, including institutional capacity, for preventive measures, planning, preparedness of disasters relating to climate change, including contingency planning, in particular, for droughts and floods in areas prone to extreme weather events;
 - (vii) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing early warning systems for extreme weather events in an integrated and interdisciplinary manner to assist developing country Parties, in particular those most vulnerable to climate change;

8. *Decides* that the implementation of the following activities shall be supported through the special climate change fund (in accordance with decision 7/CP.7) and/or the adaptation fund (in accordance with decision 10/CP.7), and other bilateral and multilateral sources:

(a) Starting to implement adaptation activities promptly where sufficient information is available to warrant such activities, *inter alia*, in the areas of water resources management, land management, agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems, including mountainous ecosystems, and integrated coastal zone management;

(b) Improving the monitoring of diseases and vectors affected by climate change, and related forecasting and early-warning systems, and in this context improving disease control and prevention;

(c) Supporting capacity building, including institutional capacity, for preventive measures, planning, preparedness and management of disasters relating to climate change, including contingency planning, in particular, for droughts and floods in areas prone to extreme weather events;

(d) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing national and regional centres and information networks for rapid response to extreme weather events, utilizing information technology as much as possible;

9. *Decides* to consider, at its eighth session, the implementation of insurance-related actions to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change, based on the outcome of the workshops referred to in paragraphs 37 and 38 below;

10. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to review, at their subsequent sessions, the progress of the above-mentioned activities and make recommendations thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session;

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPH 9, OF THE CONVENTION

11. *Decides* to establish a work programme for the implementation of Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention, which would include activities covered under paragraphs 15 to 19 below, as well as the following:

(a) Strengthening existing and, where needed, establishing, national climate change secretariats and/or focal points to enable the effective implementation of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, in the least developed country Parties;

(b) Providing training, on an ongoing basis, in negotiating skills and language, where needed, to develop the capacity of negotiators from the least developed countries to participate effectively in the climate change process;

(c) Supporting the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action;

12. *Decides* that a least developed countries fund shall be established (in accordance with decision 7/CP.7), to be operated by an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism, under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, to support the work programme for the least developed countries. This work programme shall include, *inter alia*, the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action;

13. *Invites* Annex II Parties to contribute financially to the programme mentioned in paragraph 11 above;

14. *Invites* Annex II Parties to support least developed country Parties for the following activities:

- (a) Promotion of public awareness programmes to ensure the dissemination of information on climate change issues;
 - (b) Development and transfer of technology, particularly adaptation technology (in accordance with decision 4/CP.7);
 - (c) Strengthening of the capacity of meteorological and hydrological services to collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate weather and climate information to support implementation of national adaptation programmes of action;
15. *Decides* that support be provided for the development, by the least developed countries, of national adaptation programmes of action which will serve as a simplified and direct channel of communication of information relating to the vulnerabilities and adaptation needs of the least developed countries; the information contained in national adaptation programmes of action may constitute the first step in the preparation of initial national communications;
16. *Decides* to consider, at its current session, the establishment of a least developed country group of experts, including its terms of reference, taking into account geographical balance, as well as the above-mentioned consideration of the terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts;
17. *Decides* to assess, at its current session, the status of implementation of Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention and to consider further action thereon;

III. IMPACT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESPONSE MEASURES

18. *Stresses* that Parties should take action consistent with the provisions of the Convention;
19. *Decides* that the implementation of the activities included in paragraphs 25 to 32 below shall be supported through the Global Environment Facility (in accordance with decision 6/CP.7), the special climate change fund (in accordance with decision 7/CP.7), and other bilateral and multilateral sources:
20. *Encourages* non-Annex I Parties to provide information, in their national communications and/or other relevant reports, on their specific needs and concerns arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures;
21. *Requests* Annex II Parties to provide detailed information, in their national communications and/or any other relevant reports, on their existing and planned support programmes to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures;
22. *Encourages* Annex I and non-Annex I Parties to cooperate in creating favourable conditions for investment in sectors where such investment can contribute to economic diversification;

23. *Requests* Annex II Parties to assist developing countries, in particular those most vulnerable to the impact of the implementation of response measures, in meeting their capacity-building needs for the implementation of programmes which address these impacts;
24. *Urges* Parties to consider appropriate technological options in addressing the impact of response measures, consistent with national priorities and indigenous resources;
25. *Encourages* Parties to cooperate in the technological development of non-energy uses of fossil fuels, and requests Annex II Parties to support developing country Parties to this end;
26. *Encourages* Parties to cooperate in the development, diffusion and transfer of less greenhouse gas-emitting advanced fossil-fuel technologies, and/or technologies relating to fossil fuels, that capture and store greenhouse gases, and requests Annex II Parties to facilitate the participation of the least developed countries and other non-Annex I Parties in this effort;
27. *Urges* Annex II Parties to provide financial and technological support for strengthening the capacity of developing country Parties identified in Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention for improving efficiency in upstream and downstream activities relating to fossil fuels, taking into consideration the need to improve the environmental efficiency of these activities;
28. *Encourages* Annex II Parties to promote investment in, and to support and cooperate with, developing country Parties in the development, production, distribution and transport of indigenous, less greenhouse gas-emitting, environmentally sound,³ energy sources, including natural gas, according to the national circumstances of each of these Parties;
29. *Urges* Annex II Parties to provide support for research into, and the development and use of, renewable energy, including solar and wind energy, in developing country Parties;
30. *Decides* to consider, at its eighth session, the implementation of insurance-related actions to meet the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change, based on the outcome of the workshops referred to in paragraphs 37 and 38 below;
31. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to consider, at their subsequent sessions, the response by Parties to the actions listed in paragraphs 25 to 32 above;

IV. FURTHER MULTILATERAL WORK RELATING TO ISSUES UNDER ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 9 OF THE CONVENTION

32. *Requests* the secretariat to organize regional workshops in order to facilitate information exchange and integrated assessments, including for adaptation;

³ Throughout this decision, the term “environmentally sound” means “environmentally safe and sound” (Source: Agenda 21, chapter 1).

33. *Requests* the secretariat to organize a workshop, before the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, on the status of modelling activities to assess the adverse effects of climate change and the impact of response measures already implemented on individual developing country Parties, including on how to enhance the participation of developing country experts in such efforts, and to report the results of this workshop to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session. The terms of reference of this workshop will include assessments on approaches to minimize the adverse effects of response measures on developing countries;
34. *Requests* the secretariat to organize a workshop, to be held immediately before the workshop referred to in paragraph 38 below, and before the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, on insurance and risk assessment in the context of climate change and extreme weather events, and to report the results of this workshop to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session;
35. *Requests* the secretariat to organize a workshop, to be held immediately after the workshop referred to in paragraph 37 above, and before the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, on insurance-related actions to address the specific needs and concerns of developing country Parties arising from the adverse effects of climate change and from the impact of the implementation of response measures, and to report the results of this workshop to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session;
36. *Requests* the secretariat to organize a workshop, before the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, on possible synergies and joint action with the other multilateral environmental conventions and agreements, such as the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and to report the results of this workshop to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session;
37. *Requests* the secretariat to organize a workshop, before the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, on the needs and options of non-Annex I Parties for economic diversification, and on support programmes by Annex II Parties to address these needs, and to report the results of this workshop to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session;