

VI. Article 6 of the Convention

(Agenda item 6)

45. The SBI took note of the conclusions of the African regional workshop on Article 6 of the Convention (FCCC/SBI/2004/7) and encouraged Annex I Parties and non-Annex I Parties to cooperate in following up on the key issues identified at the workshop, including:

- (a) Facilitating cooperation and supporting the sharing of resources, at subregional, regional and international levels, for education, training and public awareness
- (b) Improving the dissemination and distribution of climate change information to the public by enhancing the relationship between governments, the public and the media
- (c) Facilitating awareness raising and capacity-building within African countries, building on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and other initiatives, with the support of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), such as UNEP.

46. The SBI recalled that the COP, by its decision 11/CP.8, decided to undertake a review of the New Delhi work programme in 2007, with an intermediate review of progress in 2004. The SBI requested the secretariat to prepare an intermediate review report on progress achieved by Parties in implementing Article 6 of the Convention, based on information contained in national communications and other information received by the secretariat by 15 August 2004. The report by the secretariat will be considered by the SBI at its twenty-first session, and will form the basis for a draft decision to be forwarded for adoption by the COP at its tenth session.

47. The SBI also encouraged IGOs and NGOs to communicate to the secretariat, by 15 September 2004, their programmatic responses to the New Delhi work programme and to provide information on progress achieved in supporting its implementation, as part of the interim review process. It requested the secretariat to make this information available to the SBI at its twenty-first session.

48. The SBI invited Parties to designate a national focal point for Article 6 activities and to inform the secretariat accordingly. It recognized that the functioning of such a focal point would, depending on national circumstances, benefit from strengthening of national institutions and capacities.

49. The SBI further noted that decision 4/CP.9 requested the GEF, as the entity responsible for operating the financial mechanism of the Convention, to "continue its support for education, training and public awareness activities relating to climate change". The SBI encouraged non-Annex I Parties to take this into account when submitting to the GEF their projects relating to their national communications, to promote the implementation of Article 6. It requested the secretariat to collaborate with the GEF secretariat to ensure the dissemination of information on the availability of such support.

50. The SBI welcomed the work of the secretariat on the development of the small-scale model of the Article 6 information network clearing house. It requested the secretariat to continue its work taking into account views expressed at the twentieth session of the SBI (see annex II), and in consultation with interested Parties. It also requested the secretariat to report to the SBI at its twenty-first session on the progress of work including:

- (a) Detailed technical specifications for the development and implementation of the clearing house
- (b) A profile for an institutional home for the clearing house highlighting relevant competences and expertise
- (c) A tentative time frame for implementation
- (d) Options, and their estimated financial implications, for the development and implementation of the clearing house.

51. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Government of France for its financial contribution to the development of the clearing house project, and invited other Parties in a position to do so to consider funding the further development and implementation of the clearing house.

52. The SBI noted that regional workshops were essential to advance the implementation of Article 6 activities, and that reports of these workshops shall be an important contribution to the review of the New Delhi work programme in 2007. It invited Parties and others in a position to do so to contribute to financing the remaining workshops addressing the needs of Asia, Latin America and the members of AOSIS, at the earliest opportunity.

53. The SBI expressed its gratitude to UNEP for its offer to contribute to the organization of the Asian regional workshop, and expressed its appreciation for the evolving role UNEP is taking in supporting the implementation of Article 6 and the New Delhi work programme.