

THE MANDATE AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS (CGE) ON NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

CGE side-event

Durban, 28 November 2011

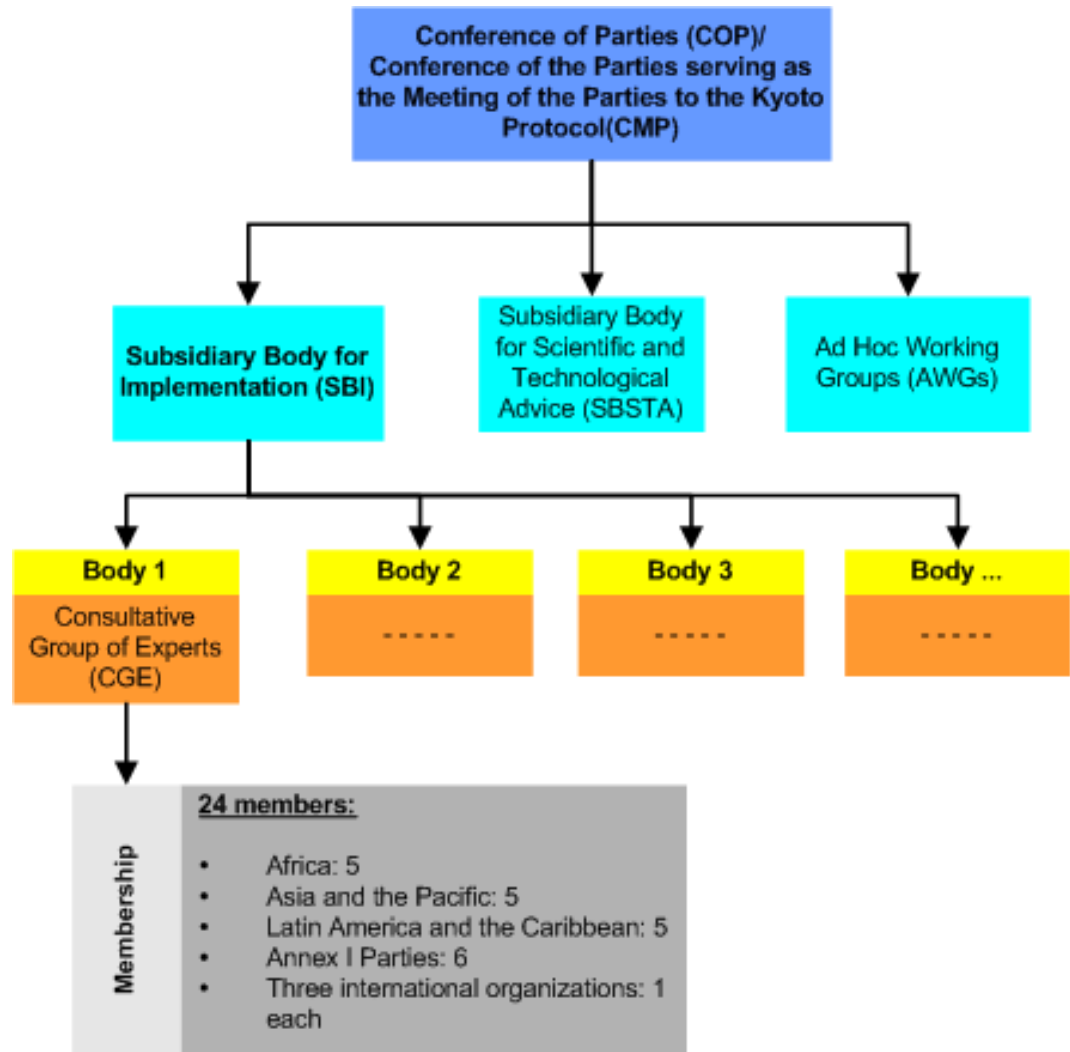


Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) on National Communications from
Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

The CGE

COP15 in Copenhagen:

- reconstituted the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) for a period of three years from 2010 to 2012 (decision 5/CP.15)
- decided that the term and the mandate of the CGE and the need for continuation of the group shall be reviewed by the COP at its seventeenth session.



Core mandate of the CGE

- ❑ Provide **technical advice and support**, and therefore **enhance the capacity** of non-Annex I Parties to prepare their national communications
- ❑ The **Terms of Reference of the group** is contained in annex to decision 5/CP.15
- ❑ There are **6 elements in the ToR of the CGE** and all addresses the capacity building of non-Annex I Parties



Elements in the ToR

- ❑ Provide technical advice/assistance/support to the NAI Parties addressing:
 - Process and preparation of NAI NCs (para 2(a))
 - Establishment and maintenance of the national technical teams, for the preparation of national communications, including GHG inventories, on a continuous basis (para 2(c))
 - Mainstreaming of climate change considerations (para 2(d))
 - Support for preparation of national communications (para 2(e))
- ❑ Provide **recommendations**, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NCs from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications (para 2(b))



Implementation of ToR

FULFILLING THE CGE MANDATE

- ❑ In fulfilling its mandate, the CGE implemented the following activities that were geared towards **enhancing the capacity** of non-Annex I Parties in preparing their national communications:
 - Reviewing and updating of CGE **training materials**;
 - Conducting **workshops**, including **hands-on training**;
 - Collecting information through **surveys**;
 - Preparing **technical papers**.



FULFILLING THE CGE MANDATE

PARA. 2(a) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE



PARA. 2(a) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE

- ❑ Provide **technical assistance** to NAI Parties for the regular development of national GHG inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, mitigation assessment, research and systematic observation, education, training and public awareness, technology transfer and capacity-building, with a view to improving the accuracy, consistency and transparency of information in their NC
- ❑ Ongoing **update of CGE training materials** on GHG inventories, V&A and mitigation assessments

- Each region (LAC, African and Asian) will have a **training workshop** on ***GHG inventories, V&A and mitigation***

Implemented thus far

- First regional workshop was held for *LAC region on GHG inventories*, 5-9 Sep 2011, Santiago, Chile (**FCCC/SBI/2011/10/Add.2**)
- Second regional workshop was held for *Africa region on V&A*, 7-11 Nov 2011, Nairobi, Kenya



PARA. 2(a) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE (cont)

Planned for 2012

- Third regional workshop for *Asian region on GHG inventories* from 30 January – 3 February 2012 in Sri Lanka
- Fourth regional workshop will be *Asian region on mitigation assessment* from 27 February – 2 March 2012 in Thailand
- Fifth regional workshop – *African region on GHG inventories* from 23 – 27 April 2012
- Sixth regional workshop – *LAC region on V&A* from 9 – 13 July 2012
- Seventh regional workshop – *LAC region on mitigation assessment* from 16 – 20 July 2012
- Eighth regional workshop – *African region on mitigation assessment* from 20 – 24 August 2012
- Ninth regional workshop – *Asian region on V&A* from 1 – 5 October 2012



PARA. 2(a) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE (cont)

Key observations

- Training of staff in charge of preparation of national communications, expanding training opportunities among teams from NAI parties
- Introduction of **on-line remote participation** to maximize participation proved to be huge success
- Continuous improvement to the training material as a result of **feedback** from training workshops
- The participants welcomed the workshops and acknowledged that the workshops provided opportunity to learn more on the concerned subjects
- The workshops also served as useful platforms to share experiences and lessons learned among the participants, improve networking among NAI teams, and exchange views with bilateral and multilateral agencies
- The participants also provided many concrete recommendations on how to improve the CGE training materials and the future workshops
- Provides opportunity to the CGE to involve other international agencies such IPCC, NCSP, UNEP and UNDP in its work programme
- Also provides the CGE with better understanding of constraints and problems that non-Annex I Parties continue to face in preparing their national communications



FULFILLING THE CGE MANDATE

PARA. 2(b) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE



PARA. 2(b) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE

- ❑ Provide **recommendations**, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NC from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, taking into account the difficulties encountered by NAI Parties in the preparation of their most recent NC
 - CGE conducted a **survey** to assess *difficulties, challenges, technical problems, and constraints faced by NAI Parties in preparing their national communications, in using the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from NAI Parties* (2(a) and 2(b));
 - CGE held **workshop** to *exchange views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC guidelines for preparation of non-Annex I national communications* (21-23 March 2011, Antigua and Barbuda) (FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Add.1);
 - Based on the above, the CGE **made recommendations to SBI 34** (FCCC/SBI/2011/5);
 - **SBI 34 encouraged Parties** to take into account these recommendations as appropriate (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.8).



PARA. 2(b) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE (cont)

Key observations

- The survey enabled the CGE to identify areas of technical problems and constraints, and the related technical and capacity needs faced by non-Annex I Parties in preparing their national communications
- The survey also enabled the CGE to provide its recommendation on how to address those problems and constraints, and the related technical and capacity needs

(detailed areas of problems and constraints, and the related technical and capacity needs along with the associated recommendations from the CGE to address them contained in FCCC/SBI/2010/21/Add.1 and also FCCC/SBI/2011/5)

- The technical report containing recommendations were considered by the SBI 33 which encouraged the CGE to implement the recommendations outlined in the report, as appropriate.



PARA. 2(b) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE (cont)

Key observations

- The workshop on exchange of views on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” resulted in recommendations on possible elements in 5 thematic areas.
- Based on the thematic recommendations, the CGE made its recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”, taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications
- The recommendations were forwarded to the SBI 34 as a part of the CGE progress report (FCCC/SBI/2011/5); the SBI welcomed the recommendations and encouraged the Parties to take into these recommendations in such a future revision.



FULFILLING THE CGE MANDATE

PARA. 2(c) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE



PARA. 2(c) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE

- ❑ Provide **technical advice** to NAI Parties to facilitate the development and long-term sustainability of processes, and the establishment and maintenance of national technical teams, for the preparation of NC, including GHG inventories, on a continuous basis.
 - CGE conducted a **survey to collect information** on *problems related to the sustainability of the NC process and maintenance of national technical teams for the preparation of NC including GHG inventories, on a continuous basis*;
 - Workshop on *facilitating the development and long-term sustainability of processes, and the establishment and maintenance of national technical teams, for the preparation of NCs, including GHG inventories, on a continuous basis* (20-21 June 2011, Bonn, Germany).



PARA. 2(c) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE (cont)

Key observations

- Based on the survey results, the CGE provided its recommendations on assistance needed to address the following concerns related to the sustainability of the national communications process and maintenance of technical teams for the preparation of NCs, including GHG inventories, on a continue basis:
 - Institutional
 - Financial
 - GHG inventory software
 - Cross-cutting issues: capacity-building and training(detailed recommendations forward to the SBI 34 are contained in FCCC/SBI/2011/10/Add.2)
- This exercise was further reinforce with the workshop which provided a good opportunity for participants to share lessons learned and good practices and could serve as guidance to the CGE in the implementation of its mandate.
- There were additional recommendations from the workshop on the common challenges and best practices; options available to Parties; and key elements for facilitating the development and long-term sustainability of the national communication processes (FCCC/SBI/2011/10/Add.1)



FULFILLING THE CGE MANDATE

PARAs. 2(d) and (e) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE



PARA. 2(d) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE

- ❑ **Para 2(d) of decision 5/CP.15:** Provide **technical advice and support** to Parties, upon request, on the provision of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations in to relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 1(f), of the Convention.
 - This is an ongoing CGE activity where, as and when, the CGE is requested by Parties provide technical advice and support on the provisions of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations (mostly during the workshops)



PARA. 2(e) of DECISION 5/CP.15 OF MANDATE

- ❑ Provide NAI Parties, upon request, with **information** on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of NC by NAI Parties.
 - Technical support to a workshop organized by the NCSP to provide general guidance to and facilitate the sharing of experiences among national teams on the key technical and policy issues related to preparation of their INCs (Manila, Philippines)
 - Ongoing CGE activity



Concluding remarks



Concluding remarks – the CGE mandate

- ❑ Ambitious terms of reference: Many areas lots have been done covered and achieved but more remains to be done
 - ❑ Timely resource availability enable timely implementation of planned activities
 - ❑ The CGE made recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the UNFCCC “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”, taking into account the difficulties encountered by non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their most recent national communications
 - ❑ The CGE also provided useful technical input to non-Annex I Parties in preparing their NCs; this was acknowledged and highlighted during interaction with Parties at different fora
 - ❑ The CGE continues to receive requests from NAI Parties for its continued capacity building support
 - ❑ Continuously liaises with other expert groups and institutions
 - ❑ NAI Parties still continue facing both technical and financial challenges in preparing their NCs.
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Thank you

