



Subsidiary Body for Implementation

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Article 6 of the Convention

Possible elements of a successor work programme on Article 6 of the Convention

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

The amended New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention provides a framework for country-driven action on issues relating to climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation. It was adopted by the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its thirteenth session and comes to an end by the eighteenth session of the COP. This document presents the synthesis of submissions from Parties and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in response to the invitation by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its thirty-fourth session to provide views on possible elements for a successor work programme.

* This document was submitted after the due date owing to the date of the submission of views.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 9/CP.13, adopted the amended New Delhi work programme on Article 6 of the Convention and decided to undertake a review of its implementation in 2012.
2. The COP, by decision 7/CP.16, requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to develop terms of reference for the review of the implementation of the amended New Delhi work programme, with a view to launching the review at its thirty-sixth session.
3. The SBI, at its thirty-fourth session, endorsed the terms of reference for the review of the implementation of the amended New Delhi work programme as contained in annex I to document FCCC/SBI/2011/7. The SBI invited Parties and relevant intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as relevant stakeholders, to submit to the secretariat, by 14 February 2012, their views on possible elements of a successor work programme on Article 6 of the Convention for compilation into a miscellaneous document, and requested the secretariat¹ to prepare a synthesis report of these views that could form the basis of a successor work programme.

B. Scope of the note

4. This report summarizes possible elements of a successor work programme on Article 6 of the Convention, drawing upon submissions from Parties and relevant IGOs and NGOs, although the richness of the proposals means that all of the details could not be captured in a single concise document.
5. The full submissions from Parties and IGOs have been made available in document FCCC/SBI/2012/MISC.4.² The submissions received from NGOs are available on the UNFCCC website.³

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

6. The SBI may wish to consider the elements outlined in this document with a view to developing recommendations on a successor work programme for the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention.

II. Synthesis of views from Parties and observer organizations on elements of a successor work programme on Article 6 of the Convention

7. In response to the invitation by the SBI at its thirty-fourth session, six Parties,⁴ representing the views of 38 Parties, two IGOs, representing the views of 32 multilateral

¹ FCCC/SBI/2011/7, annex I, paragraph 6(d).

² The submissions contained in this document are available at <<http://unfccc.int/5902.php>>.

³ <http://unfccc.int/parties_observers/ngo/submissions/items/3689.php>.

⁴ Dominican Republic, European Union and its member States, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation and Ukraine.

organizations, four NGOs and one NGO constituency submitted their views on possible elements of a successor work programme.

A. Scope

8. Parties and observer organizations agreed that the amended New Delhi work programme proved to be an adequate framework for country-driven action on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention and that a successor work programme should build on its guiding principles and follow its scope and structure.

9. It was emphasized that no single strategy for raising awareness or building capacity would be appropriate for all countries or regions and that therefore the successor work programme should follow the flexible approach of the amended New Delhi work programme.

B. Guiding principles

10. Parties and observer organizations suggested the following guiding principles for the development of the successor work programme:

- (a) Promote the participation and engagement of all stakeholders, in particular children, youth, women, indigenous peoples, local communities and NGOs;
- (b) Recognize gender as a cross-cutting issue in all six thematic areas of Article 6 of the Convention;
- (c) Increase the focus on adaptation issues;
- (d) Recognize the rights and needs of children and young people.

C. Thematic areas of work

11. Parties noted that most of the activities recommended in the amended New Delhi work programme are still appropriate. Proposals for additional activities to be implemented by Parties and other stakeholders under the successor work programme are synthesized in line with the six thematic areas identified in Article 6 of the Convention.

1. Education

12. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the following actions be implemented:

- (a) Strengthen the development of national and sectoral strategies on climate change education and training, ensure their linkage with broader education goals, such as education on sustainable development, and coordination with all stakeholders;
- (b) Prepare guidelines on how to promote the inclusion of climate change information in school curricula at all levels and encourage sharing of teaching materials at the regional or international level where appropriate;
- (c) Promote formal, non-formal and informal education on climate change and variability with a holistic vision and practical approach.

2. Training

13. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the following actions be implemented:

- (a) Strengthen institutions for climate change training and education at the national, subnational and local levels and integrate climate change training and education into national development and sectoral strategies;
- (b) Enhance the preparation and dissemination of reference materials and guidelines to stakeholders;
- (c) Promote the development of communication skills as a key issue for the successful implementation of the successor work programme;
- (d) Develop innovative means of delivering climate change training (e.g. e-learning);
- (e) Strengthen training on vulnerability and adaptation to climate change;
- (f) Utilize training opportunities to be provided by the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the Adaptation Committee established under the Convention;
- (g) Invite the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to develop a programme on climate change education and training.

3. Public awareness

14. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the following actions be implemented:

- (a) Promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, such as sustainable diets, and increase the awareness of consumers, particularly women, of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with different kinds of products and services;
- (b) Conduct regular surveys to assess the level of public knowledge and awareness of climate change related issues;
- (c) Promote the design of public awareness materials on climate change in the official languages of the United Nations;
- (d) Ensure that awareness-raising and educational activities are based on gender-sensitive socio-economic data, equally target women and men and allow for their equal participation;
- (e) Develop innovative communication strategies, including through the use of social media.

4. Public participation

15. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the following actions be implemented:

- (a) Provide opportunities for children, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, women and NGOs to engage in the development and adoption of climate change policies;
- (b) Develop indicators on the involvement of youth and other stakeholders in decision-making on climate change policies.

5. Public access to information

16. Parties suggested that the transparency of climate change policies should be ensured.

6. International cooperation

17. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the following actions be implemented:

(a) Further strengthen regional and international cooperation by mobilizing partnerships and networking among Parties, IGOs, NGOs, academia, the private sector, state and local government and community-based organizations and by jointly designing, implementing and evaluating activities and policies related to Article 6 of the Convention;

(b) Establish a network of national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention and facilitate a regular exchange of views, good practices and lessons learned through the climate change information network clearing house (CC:iNet)⁵ and the organization of workshops and video conferences;

(c) Facilitate access to model programmes that are easily replicable in all countries;

(d) Foster the regional dimension of activities related to Article 6 of the Convention by improving regional networking and supporting regional workshops with a specific thematic focus, including on health-related issues;

(e) Promote North–South, South–South and triangular cooperation;

(f) Strengthen links between issues related to Article 6 of the Convention and issues related to capacity-building and adaptation, in particular by facilitating networks of experts on these issues;

(g) Further enhance international cooperation on climate change education through United Nations organizations;

(h) Foster partnerships around the United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development.⁶

D. Time frame

18. Parties suggested that the successor work programme should start immediately after the expiration of the amended New Delhi work programme in December 2012 in order to avoid any gaps.

19. Parties and observer organizations proposed that the time frame of the successor work programme should be expanded to eight, ten or fifteen years, with an intermediate review being conducted after three or five years. Another proposal was made to develop a permanent work programme that would be reviewed every three years.

20. It was further suggested that annual thematic reviews that focus on one of the six thematic areas of Article 6 of the Convention be conducted each year. Regional workshops could be organized for the review of the work programme.

⁵ <unfccc.int/ccinet>.

⁶ <<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/education-for-sustainable-development/>>.

E. Fostering national efforts

21. To strengthen the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention at the national level the following actions to be implemented by Parties were proposed:

- (a) Nominate national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention and provide them with the necessary financial and technical support;
- (b) Strengthen activities on training and public awareness regarding the effects of climate change;
- (c) Develop criteria for the identification of good practices that take into account national circumstances and capacities, and promote sharing such practices;
- (d) Develop communication strategies on climate change on the basis of targeted social research in order to create behavioural changes, and encourage active communication on climate change, in particular in the case of a crisis or at key moments (e.g. negotiation outcomes, public scepticism, financial crisis);
- (e) Develop approaches for education, training and awareness-raising activities that specifically target governmental bodies and groups dealing with resources affected by climate change;
- (f) Develop mandatory national plans of action on Article 6 of the Convention;
- (g) Improve networking and coordination at the global, regional and national levels through national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention by involving all relevant stakeholders, such as journalists, teachers, scientists, trade unions, community leaders, local authorities, NGOs, the private sector, youth and children;
- (h) Build national knowledge management systems for information on activities related to Article 6 of the Convention.

F. Non-governmental organizations

22. Parties proposed that the successor work programme needs to foster the participation of all stakeholders in the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention and invite them to report on the implementation of activities. In particular, the successor work programme should promote the active participation of youth, women, civil society organizations and the media.

G. Intergovernmental organizations

23. IGOs should be encouraged to continue to contribute to the implementation of the work programme in their respective areas of competence.

24. It was proposed that United Nations organizations expand the practice of scholarships for students from developing countries.

H. Targets, measurable indicators, monitoring and evaluation

25. Parties and observer organizations emphasized that the successor work programme should include clearly defined targets and measurable indicators for the monitoring and evaluation of activities.

26. It was proposed that targets should be set within national action plans on Article 6 of the Convention and include, inter alia, the following elements:

- (a) The amount of funding and support provided for education, training and public participation programmes;
- (b) The number of funded projects which have activities related to Article 6 of the Convention as a key objective;
- (c) The active involvement of stakeholders in decision-making on climate change policies;
- (d) The designation of, and the provision of support to, national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention.

27. Tools, methodologies and standards for climate change education and training need to be developed that support results-based monitoring, reporting and verification.

28. It was proposed that guidelines for reporting on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention in national communications be improved.

I. Financial support

29. Recalling decision 7/CP.16 and the report of the thirty-fourth session of the SBI, Parties and observer organizations proposed that the successor work programme should be supported through increased funding provided by the Global Environment Facility or a funding window that could be developed under the Green Climate Fund.

30. In providing financial support for the implementation of activities under the successor work programme, the following considerations could be taken into account:

- (a) The inclusion of stakeholders in relevant decision-making bodies;
- (b) Gender perspectives;
- (c) Special circumstances of countries with economies in transition;
- (d) Placing the focus on:
 - (i) Activities organized by, or targeting, youth, women, civil society and the media;
 - (ii) Formal and non-formal educational activities for children and youth;
 - (iii) The strengthening of national education and training institutions;
 - (iv) The development of communication strategies, including on the impacts of climate change on human health and on low carbon consumption patterns.

31. It was further proposed that a permanent fund be established for the participation of youth from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in UNFCCC sessions.

J. Role of the secretariat

32. Parties and observer organizations noted that the secretariat could facilitate efforts under the successor work programme by, inter alia:

- (a) Mobilizing relevant organizations and facilitating coordinated actions undertaken by these organizations;

- (b) Providing information to stakeholders on the design, access to funding and implementation of projects related to Article 6 of the Convention;
- (c) Producing guidelines for the development of national plans of action on Article 6 of the Convention⁷ in the official United Nations languages, taking into account national circumstances and cultural contexts;
- (d) Enhancing guidelines for reporting on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention in national communications;
- (e) Preparing publications on good practices in the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention;
- (f) Designing training programmes for national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention;
- (g) Fostering networking, coordination and exchange of information between stakeholders at the global, regional, national and local levels;
- (h) Promoting the involvement of stakeholders with a key role in climate change communication and education, including journalists, teachers, youth, children and community leaders and jointly creating and distributing online and offline tools and teaching packages;
- (i) Fostering the participation of women, youth, indigenous peoples, civil society groups and relevant stakeholders in decision-making on climate change at the national level and at UNFCCC sessions, including through the development of good practice guidelines for the inclusion of youth delegates in official delegations;
- (j) Further promoting and facilitating the exchange of information and materials, and sharing of experience and good practices through, inter alia, global, regional, subregional and national workshops and thematic expert meetings on the implementation of Article 6 of the Convention;
- (k) Further developing and promoting CC:iNet by creating a new design, a more user-friendly structure, a networking platform for national focal points for Article 6 of the Convention, new tools and features and increasing the content in the official United Nations languages and other languages;⁸
- (l) Encouraging Parties and the general public to make use of CC:iNet.

⁷ Also referred to in document FCCC/SBI/2011/7, annex I, paragraph 69(d).

⁸ More detailed suggestions on the further development of CC:iNet are contained in document FCCC/SBI/2012/4.