



NAI NEWSLETTER

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SECRETARIAT NEWS

AWG-LCA 3

The third session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA 3) was held at the Accra International Conference Centre, Accra, Ghana, from 21 to 27 August 2008. Attended by over 1600 participants, it was the third major UNFCCC gathering this year.

The AWG-LCA was established at COP 13 in Bali, Indonesia to facilitate agreement on a robust post 2012 climate regime. In Accra, the group continued substantive work on the main elements of the Bali Action Plan (BAP) to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action, now, up to and beyond 2012.

In Accra, in-session workshops were held on:

- Cooperative sectoral approaches and sector-specific actions, in order to enhance implementation of Article 4, paragraph 1 (c) of the Convention; and
- Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD); and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

For the full report of AWG-LCA 3 see:
<<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/awglca3/eng/12.pdf>>.

At its fourth session to be held in Poznan, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008, the AWG-LCA will hold in-session workshops on:

- Shared vision for long-term cooperative action;
- Risk management and risk reduction strategies, including risk sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance; and
- Cooperation on research and development of current, new and innovative technology, including win-win solutions.

For more information on AWG-LCA see:
<<http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/4381.php>>.

AWG-LCA 3 In-Session Workshop on REDD

The workshop on "Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation,

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sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries" underlined the importance of mitigation actions from the forest sector in stabilizing global greenhouse gas concentrations.

Parties delivered presentations, highlighting ongoing efforts and planned activities. There was a common understanding that the current knowledge of methodological issues was sufficient to initiate discussions on policy approaches and positive incentives. Importance of robust methodologies to ensure that emission reductions are real, measurable, reportable and verifiable was also highlighted. Some support was voiced for basing positive incentives on performance, and supporting them with a variety of funding sources.

On the subject of using forestry mitigation activities in non-Annex I countries to meet emission reduction commitments of Annex I countries, it was felt that NAI efforts should be supplemental to overall mitigation efforts of Annex I Parties.

REDD Web Portal

A new web platform aimed at sharing information on REDD was launched by the UNFCCC secretariat in October 2008

[<http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/4531.php>](http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/4531.php)
Its aim is to facilitate non-Annex I Parties' access to information in areas of technical assistance, methodologies, data sources, capacity building and project demonstration.

Parties, organizations and stakeholders are invited to send relevant information to:
redwebplatform@unfccc.int

Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

At the 28th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) in June this year, the first phase of the Nairobi work programme (NWP) was completed, and the second phase commenced. Parties agreed on a clear set of activities for the second phase, with a particular emphasis on activities dealing with economic diversification and adaptation planning and practices. Activities related to education, training and public awareness, and promotion of regional centers also feature in the second phase.

The overall objective of NWP is to assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change.

The first few months of the second phase have seen a wide range of activities being undertaken, including the production of two technical papers (see page 4 for more information) and continuation of efforts to engage more organizations and institutions in implementing NWP. These will feed into the upcoming COP 14 where Parties will review progress made in implementing activities under NWP in its second phase.

Fourteenth meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

The fourteenth meeting of the LDC Expert Group (LEG) took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 29 September to 1 October 2008.

During the meeting, the LEG reviewed the status of preparation and implementation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA); considered efforts to support LDCs in preparing and implementing NAPAs; developed further steps in implementing and prioritizing its work; and organised an interactive session with Ethiopia's NAPA team. The LEG also elected Mr. Fred Machulu Onduri of Uganda as Chair of the group, replacing Mr. Bubu Jallow, who resigned in September 2008.

The following activities were identified as priority for the LEG in 2008-2010:

- Providing support to countries emerging from conflict or experiencing difficulties in finalizing their NAPA due to language constraints;
- Updating and improving guidance for the preparation and design of NAPA implementation strategies, taking into account issues raised by Parties and GEF agencies;
- Providing support to build the capacity of LDCs to implement NAPAs through the provision of guidelines, and other technical support designed to improve Parties' access to the LDC Fund;
- Improving knowledge management and outreach on NAPAs, aimed at sharing good practices and lessons learned from pilot adaptation projects; and
- Supporting LDCs in integrating adaptation into national development plans.

For the full report of the meeting see:
[<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/sbi/eng/14.pdf>](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/sbi/eng/14.pdf).

EGTT Meeting

The Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) met in Dublin in October 2008, the fourth and final meeting of the Group this year, and discussed interim reports on the following three key issues:

- Performance indicators for technology development and transfer
(<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/sb/eng/inf06.pdf>);
- Identification and analysis of existing and new financing resources and relevant vehicles for the development and transfer of technologies
(<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/sb/eng/inf07.pdf>);
- Long-term strategy to support the development and transfer of technologies
(<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/sb/eng/inf08.pdf>).

The next meeting of the EGTT will take place in February 2009. It will further advance work on these issues, which could provide useful input to the discussion on technology during the 5th session of the AWG-LCA taking place from 29 March to 8 April 2009.

The final reports of the above issues will be available at SB 30, in June 2009.

For more information on the work of the EGTT see:
[<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/EGTT.jsp>](http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/EGTT.jsp).

Capacity Building Meeting

An expert meeting to share experiences in using performance indicators for monitoring and evaluation of capacity-building at the national level took place in Rio de Janeiro, in November 2008. Participants discussed the concept of capacity and capacity building; the purposes, methodologies and challenges for monitoring and evaluation of capacity-building; and the principles for design and application of performance indicators to support the implementation of capacity-building under the Convention at the national level. Participants recommended a list of options that could be considered in developing further steps to regularly monitor and

evaluate capacity-building activities under the capacity-building framework.

Full report of the meeting (FCCC/SBI/2008/15) will be available on the UNFCCC website before the COP 14.

Fellowship Programme

The UNFCCC Fellowship Programme was re-launched in July 2008 with the objective of contributing towards building capacity for addressing climate change in non-Annex I Parties, particularly SIDS and LDCs. Mid-career government officials who are nationals of and are working in a developing country, preferably SIDS or LDC, are eligible for the programme.

Of the 42 candidates who applied in the first round, the following have been selected to work on the projects listed below:

- Ms. Daisy Tatur-Ramasamy, Mauritius – National Economic and Environmental Development Study (NEEDS) for climate change;
- Mr. Raju Laudari, Nepal - Drivers and barriers of Programme of Activities of the Clean Development Mechanism in LDCs;
- Mr. Minda Woldeeselassie, Ethiopia - Urban forestry: a prospect for growing trees outside forests; and
- Mr. Mehreteab Yemane, Eritrea – Extending the reach of the Clean Development Mechanism in Africa.

For more information on the programme see: http://unfccc.int/secretariat/fellowship_programm2e/item/s/4429.php.

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mongolia's greenhouse gas inventories in the framework of its second national communications

Mongolia began the process of preparing its second national communication (SNC) in 2006. Since the submission of its initial national communication (INC) in 2001, significant structural changes occurred in the important sectors of the country's economy, and changed the system of collecting and processing of statistical information. Therefore, a differentiated and detailed approach to greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory calculation was required within the framework of the SNC. To this end, all data and emission factors were updated; GHG inventories for 1990 to 1998, which were previously calculated for the INC, were recalculated; and new GHG emissions for 1999-2006 were calculated. As a result, Mongolia will report in its SNC its GHG inventories for 17 years, covering the period from 1990 to 2006.

The following new calculations were undertaken for the SNC:

- Energy sector - emissions from fuel combustion calculated using reference and sectoral approaches, and a comparison analysis of the two approaches;
- Industrial sector - emissions of NMVOC (non-methane volatile organic compounds) from food and drink production and emissions of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs);
- Agriculture sector - country specific emission factors for enteric fermentation developed using Tier 2 methodology; and

- Waste sector - methane emissions from wastewater treatment calculated and some country specific emission coefficient identified.

Please contact Mr. D. Dagvadorj (dagvadorj@mne.gov.mn) for more information.

Thailand's Experience on PRECIS

PRECIS (Providing REgional Climates for Impacts Studies) is a regional climate modelling system of the Hadley Centre developed in order to help generate high-resolution climate change information for as many regions of the world as possible.

The Southeast Asia (SEA) START Regional Centre (Global Change system for Analysis, Research and Training) is using PRECIS Version 1.7 to scale GCM (General Circulation Model) scenarios down to the Southeast Asian mainland domain at resolution 0.22° (~25 km). Downscaling of two GCM's are complete. All downscaling are conducted for the period from 1980 to 2100. Thailand Research Fund and the Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) are the main financial supporters for the downscaling exercise.

The run time for PRECIS was reduced to about 6 months for each SRES (Special Report on Emissions Scenarios) by splitting the run time into segments of 10 years each, to be run by one computer.

Users in SEA have requested PRECIS outputs on precipitation, temperature (daily maximum, minimum and mean), surface wind speed and direction, and solar radiation. Modelling users requested daily outputs while non-modelling users often only requested time-aggregated outputs.

PRECIS outputs are now the principal climate scenarios used in the vulnerability and adaptation analysis for systems and sectors in Thailand's second national communication to the UNFCCC. Outputs have also been shared with Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam. In the future SEA START Regional Centre hopes to develop an on-line system to archive and disseminate these scenarios via internet and off-line modes.

Mauritania, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan informed the secretariat that they intend to submit their second national communications during COP 14.

Resource Guide for preparing NAI National Communications

A series of four modules are being developed as a Resource Guide to assist NAI Parties in the preparation of their national communications. The guide is intended as a supplement to the "User Manual for the Guidelines on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties".

The "Vulnerability and Adaptation" and "Mitigation" modules are complete and will be available during COP 14 in Poznan, Poland, from the Climate Change Kiosk which will be located between Pavilion 8 (Plenary 2) and

Pavilion 8A (Media Centre) on the ground floor of the conference venue. The complete Resource Guide with additional modules on “National Communications Preparation Process” and “GHG Inventory” will be distributed during the 30th session of the Subsidiary bodies in June 2009.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TOOLS and METHODS

MAGICC/SCENGEN Version 5.3

MAGICC (Model for the Assessment of GHG Induced Climate Change)/ SCENGEN (Scenario Generator), a software package to generate regional temperature and precipitation scenarios, has been updated to incorporate advances in climate modelling science and outputs from new global climate model experiments.

Major new changes/features of Version 5.3:

- The default and 90% confidence interval values for climate sensitivity (used in MAGICC to project global temperature change) updated;
- The model for calculating sea level rise contribution from GSICs (Glaciers and Small Ice Caps) replaced by physically based model;
- The carbon cycle model in MAGICC updated to give a larger climate feedback;
- The Atmosphere/Ocean General Circulation Model (AOGCM) data base in SCENGEN updated from CMIP2 models to CMIP3/AR4 models;
- These model data regridded to provide finer resolution (at 2.5 degree latitude by 2.5 degree longitude);
- Mean sea level pressure (MSLP) data added to SCENGEN; and
- A number of new AOGCM diagnostic tools added to SCENGEN to facilitate model selection.

The national communications teams may consider using this version:

- To generate sea level rise scenarios;
- To evaluate GCM performances for specific regions;
- To generate regional precipitation and temperature change scenarios;
- To analyse changes in climate variability, project the possibility of directional change in precipitation and explore uncertainties associated with regional climate scenarios.

While using MAGICC/SCENGEN for scenario development, it is highly advisable to refer to the relevant sections of the National Communications Support Programme's (NCSP) guidance document on the development and application of climate scenarios <http://ncsp.van-network.org/UserFiles/File/PDFs/Resource%20Center/Climate%20Scenarios/NCSP_climate_scenarios_guidance.pdf>.

Upon a simple user registration, the new version of the software and the user manual can be downloaded from <<http://www.cgd.ucar.edu/cgi-bin/cas/magicc.cgi>> and <<http://www.cgd.ucar.edu/cas/wigley/magicc/UserMan5.3.v2.pdf>>, respectively. For technical questions or further information, please contact Dr Tom Wigley at wigley@cgd.ucar.edu. Alternatively, the NCSP can be contacted at ncsp@undp.org on how to make use of the software within the context of SNC preparation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COP 14 and COP/MOP 4

Conference of the Parties (COP) 14 and Conference of the Parties serving as a Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP) 4 will take place in Poznan, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008. These meetings will coincide with the 29th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), 4th session of AWG-LCA and the resumed 6th session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Further Commitments from Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 6). For provisional agendas and annotations please see

<http://unfccc.int/meetings/cop_14/items/4481.php>.

COP 14 Side Events	
Event	Timing
LEG/NAPA: An update on the work of the LEG and status of NAPA implementation.	13.00-15.00 Tuesday, 02 Dec 2008
Adaptation Fund Board: question and answer session	13.00-15.00, Tuesday, 02 Dec 2008
Presentation on the update of the investment and financial flows to address climate change	18.00-20.00 Thursday, 04 Dec 2008
Mauritania and Uzbekistan's SNC submission	19.30-21.00 Thursday, 04 Dec 2008
UN system response to support REDD	13.00-15.00 Thursday, 04 Dec 2008
Growing together in a changing climate: youth and climate change initiatives.	13.00-15.00 Friday, 05 Dec 2008
For the complete list of side events see: http://regserver.unfccc.int/seors/reports/events_list.html	

Technical Papers

The secretariat was mandated to prepare for Poznan, following technical papers:

- Physical and socio-economic trends in climate-related risks and extreme events in the context of their implications for sustainable development, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable developing countries, especially Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
- Integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies, such as included in the Hyogo Framework for Action, into national policies and programmes;
- Challenges and opportunities for mitigation in the agriculture sector;
- Mechanisms, including innovative insurance tools, that can be used to manage financial risks from direct impacts of climate change in developing countries, including consideration of the unique circumstances of the most vulnerable developing countries, especially LDCs, SIDS and Africa, and the designing of appropriate mechanisms bringing together inputs from technical experts in the field of insurance, reinsurance and hazard assessment;

- Update of the technical paper on Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change, taking into account paragraph 1 of the BAP;
- Information note on adaptation related activities within the UN System;
- Compilation and analysis of available information on ways and means to enhance equitable regional and sub regional distribution of projects under the clean development mechanism;
- Compilation and analysis of available information on the scope, effectiveness and functioning of the flexibility mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol; and
- Funding adaptation in developing countries: extending the share of proceeds used to assist in meeting the costs of adaptation; and options related to assigned amounts units of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention.

International Conference: Gender Justice in Times of a Changing Climate

During COP 14, Gender CC, a global network of gender experts, is organizing an all day conference on 5 December 2008 at Hotel Mercure, Poznan. The conference aims to raise awareness on gender issues and improve strategies for integrating gender at national and international levels of climate policy. To attend the conference, please send an email to info@gendercc.net indicating your interest.

The Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) is also hosting an orientation on climate change and gender equality for the government delegates on 30 November 2008 at Sheraton Hotel, Poznan. Please contact the GGCA Secretariat on natalia@gender-climate.org for more information on this.

In addition, gender and climate change related side events are also taking place in Poznan, details of which will be provided in the daily programme.

Statistics for climate change policies in Sub-Saharan Africa 2009

From 5 January to 6 March 2009, the InWEnt Centre for Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics, Germany, is providing a training on Statistics for climate change policies in Sub-Saharan Africa. For further information contact Ms. Christiane Schumann at: christiane.Schumann@inwent.org

NEWS FROM PARTNERS

UNEP's engagement in national communications process

As part of technical and programme support to 39 non-Annex I Parties in preparation of national communications, UNEP provided support in conducting

25 project inception and mid-term review workshops. Over 1000 national climate change experts and policy makers participated in these meetings. The strategic roles played by UNEP at these workshops were crucial in soliciting the highest possible political support at the national level for the national communications process. They also helped in creating awareness of the causes and impacts of climate change and in initiating effective policy dialogue and engagement amongst key stakeholders at the national level including capacity building needs of national experts and to explore options for strengthening national policy makers, academia, researches, NGOs, and Community Based Organisations (CBOs). The inception workshops also helped to assess capacities through acquisition of technical support from regional centers of excellence and regional consultants in carrying thematic assessments.

Mid-term project reviews were held for Uzbekistan and Viet Nam. These reviews provided excellent opportunities to evaluate project accomplishments, resolve project management issues, promote active involvement of women in the national communications process and address issues relating to project impacts and relevance of the SNC process at the national levels. The mid-term review of Côte d'Ivoire's national communication project is scheduled for late December 2008.

Over a dozen countries are in the advanced stages of completing their national communications. Uzbekistan and Mauritania are leading this group of countries and will submit their SNCs at a side event in COP 14, scheduled on 4 December 2008 (see COP 14 Side Events on page 4 for more information). The preparation and submission of these national reports have enabled countries to share climate relevant information amongst different stakeholders including the delegates at the COP, national policy makers, and the wider national audience as well as with multilateral and bilateral development partners. With the increasing recognition that climate change and development are intrinsically linked and that climate impacts are a significant threat to all aspects of human development and achievement of the millennium development goals, many countries are beginning to see these reports as a strategic tool to assist them align legitimate national interests and priorities to national efforts aimed at contributing towards achievement of the overall goals of the climate change Convention. Within the framework of preparing these reports, countries are also beginning to seize the unique opportunity thus offered to build institutional and systemic capacities to start integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation into development planning, programming and budgeting frameworks.

Support to National Communication Unit: Contact us with any queries

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