

**Decision 1/COP.4**Procedures to review reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties

*The Conference of the Parties,*

Recalling its decision 6/COP.3 which, *inter alia*, established an ad hoc working group to review and analyse in-depth the reports submitted at its third and fourth sessions,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary related to the organization of work for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group,

Recognizing the quality and the large number of reports submitted at its third and fourth sessions;

1. *Decides that:*

(a) All national reports submitted at its third and fourth sessions shall be reviewed individually by the Ad Hoc Working Group before the beginning of its fifth session;

(b) The Ad Hoc Working Group shall conclude the process of reviewing all remaining reports submitted at the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties, during the period between the fourth and fifth sessions, by convening an inter-sessional meeting of up to 15 working days;

(c) The Ad Hoc Working Group will organize its work according to its experience and in accordance with the provisions of this decision;

2. *Also decides that:*

(a) The Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group shall be composed of two co-chairpersons and three vice-chairpersons, one of whom shall act as Rapporteur;

(b) The Ad Hoc Working Group, without neglecting other issues contained in reports, shall review and analyse reports by adopting thematic approaches, as appropriate, based on, *inter alia*, the following topics:

- (i) Identification of best practices and successes in implementing the Convention;
- (ii) Identification of main difficulties, obstacles and challenges in implementing the Convention;
- (iii) Level of participation of all actors, including financial and technical support from developed countries, in the implementation process;
- (iv) Linkages and synergies with other conventions on the environment and development;

- (v) Strategies established within the framework of sustainable development plans and/or policies;

3. *Invites* the Committee on Science and Technology and the Global Mechanism to provide advice and information to be used for the review of the implementation of the Convention;

4. *Further decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall submit an interim report on its work to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties and a comprehensive report on its conclusions and concrete recommendations on further steps on the implementation of the Convention to the Conference of the Parties at its fifth session;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to make all necessary arrangements for the above-mentioned Ad Hoc Working Group to fulfil its mandate.

*4th Plenary  
14 December 2000*