

Annex III

UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

I. Objectives

1. The objectives of the guidelines for the preparation of the biennial update reports from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) are as follows:

(a) To assist non-Annex I Parties in meeting their reporting requirements under Article 4, paragraph 1(a), and Article 12 of the Convention and decision 1/CP.16;

(b) To encourage the presentation of information in a consistent, transparent, complete, accurate and timely manner, taking into account specific national and domestic circumstances;

(c) To enable enhanced reporting by non-Annex I Parties on mitigation actions and their effects, needs and support received, in accordance with their national circumstances, capacities and respective capabilities, and the availability of support;

(d) To provide policy guidance to an operating entity of the financial mechanism for the timely provision of financial support needed by developing country Parties in order to meet the agreed full costs of preparing their biennial update reports;

(e) To facilitate the presentation of information on finance, technology and capacity-building support needed and received, including for the preparation of biennial update reports;

(f) To facilitate reporting by non-Annex I Parties, to the extent possible, on any economic and social consequences of response measures;

II. Scope

2. The scope of biennial update reports is to provide an update to the most recently submitted national communication in the following areas:

(a) Information on national circumstances and institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of the national communications on a continuous basis;

(b) The national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removal by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, including a national inventory report;

(c) Information on mitigation actions and their effects, including associated methodologies and assumptions;

(d) Constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs, including a description of support needed and received;

(e) Information on the level of support received to enable the preparation and submission of biennial update reports;

(f) Information on domestic measurement reporting and verification;

(g) Any other information that the non-Annex I Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its biennial update report.

III. National greenhouse gas inventory

3. Non-Annex I Parties should submit updates of national GHG inventories according to paragraphs 8–24 in the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties) as contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8. The scope of the updates on national GHG inventories should be consistent with capacities, time constraints, data availabilities and the level of support provided by developed countries Parties for biennial update reporting.

4. Non-Annex I Parties should use the methodologies established by the latest UNFCCC guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties approved by the Conference of the Parties (COP) or those determined by any future decision of the COP on this matter.

5. The updates of the sections on the national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol should contain updated data on activity levels based on the best information available using the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines), the *Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, and the *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry* (hereinafter referred to as the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF); any change to the emission factor may be made in the subsequent full national communication.

6. Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to include, as appropriate and to the extent that capacities permit, in the inventory section of the biennial update report, tables included in annex 3A.2 to the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF and the sectoral report tables annexed to the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines.

7. Each non-Annex I Party is encouraged to provide a consistent time series back to the years reported in the previous national communications.

8. Non-Annex I Parties which have previously reported on their national GHG inventories contained in their national communications are encouraged to submit summary information tables of inventories for previous submission years (e.g. for 1994 and 2000).

9. The inventory section of the biennial update report should consist of a national inventory report as a summary or as an update of the information contained in chapter III (National greenhouse gas inventories) of the annex to decision 17/CP.8, including table 1, on “National greenhouse gas inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol and greenhouse gas precursors”, and table 2, on “National greenhouse gas inventory of anthropogenic emissions of HFCs, PFCs and SF₆”.

10. Additional or supporting information, including sector-specific information, may be supplied in a technical annex.

IV. Mitigation actions

11. Non-Annex I Parties should provide information, in a tabular format, on actions to mitigate climate change, by addressing anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol.

12. For each mitigation action or groups of mitigation actions including, as appropriate, those listed in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/INF.1, developing country Parties shall provide the following information to the extent possible:

(a) Name and description of the mitigation action, including information on the nature of the action, coverage (i.e. sectors and gases), quantitative goals and progress indicators;

(b) Information on methodologies and assumptions;

(c) Objectives of the action and steps taken or envisaged to achieve that action;

(d) Information on the progress of implementation of the mitigation actions and the underlying steps taken or envisaged, and the results achieved, such as estimated outcomes (metrics depending on type of action) and estimated emission reductions, to the extent possible;

(e) Information on international market mechanisms.

13. Parties should provide information on the description of domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements.

V. Finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received

14. Non-Annex I Parties should provide updated information on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity-building needs.

15. Non-Annex I Parties should also provide updated information on financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical support received from the Global Environment Facility, Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other developed country Parties, the Green Climate Fund and multilateral institutions for activities relating to climate change, including for the preparation of the current biennial update report.

16. With regard to the development and transfer of technology, non-Annex I Parties should provide information on technology needs, which must be nationally determined, and on technology support received.

VI. Submission

17. The information provided in accordance with these guidelines should be communicated by each non-Annex I Party to the COP, through the secretariat, in a single document, in electronic format.

18. Non-Annex I Parties should submit their biennial update reports in English or any one of the official United Nations languages.

19. Additional or supporting information may be supplied through other documents, such as a technical annex.