



Global Environment Facility

STATEMENT BY THE GEF
TO SBI 33
ON SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to have this opportunity to report to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) relating to the preparation of National Communications from non-Annex I Parties. The information I am presenting is included in document FCCC/CP/2010/5, Report of the GEF to the COP, and document FCCC/CP/2010/5/Add.1, an addendum to the report.

The information contained in the addendum was provided by UNDP and UNEP and includes information on the status of National Communications from non-Annex I Parties as of October 20, 2010, including the approximate date of submission of the National Communications to the COP, which the GEF was invited to provide by the SBI, at its thirty-second session.

Mr. Chairman,

As of October 2010, 142 non-Annex I parties had received GEF funding for the preparation of their National Communications to the UNFCCC. All requests to support National Communications were met by the GEF. Twenty-six Parties already submitted their Second National Communications to the COP. Additionally sixty-one Parties expect to have a draft Second National Communication report completed by end of 2010. Thirty-four Parties would complete their Second National Communications by 2011.

I would like to add that from July 2009 to June 2010, 12 Parties submitted their Second National Communications (SNCs) to the UNFCCC. Mexico submitted its Fourth National Communication, while Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted its First National Communication.

Mr. Chairman,

The GEF provides assistance to countries in formulating project proposals identified in their National Communications in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4, of the Convention and decision 5/CP.11, paragraph 2.

The National Communication Support Programme (NCSP) is being implemented to offer support to the countries, including the organization of workshops, technical trainings, technical

review of the National Communications, and provision of on-line backstopping to countries, among other activities.

And now that the GEF reached a successful replenishment with a total pledge of \$4.3 billion over the next four years (July 2010 to June 2014) we expect to be able to strengthen our country focused support. We recognize this is a fundamental obligation of the GEF to fund National Communications, and therefore the secretariat is already stepping up its efforts in GEF-5 to further strengthen support to non-Annex I Parties for their National Communications.

We have for example identified that continued support for enabling activities, specifically National Communications, is a core objective in our climate change focal area strategy. Therefore GEF resources have been set aside outside of the national resource allocation system, known as System for a Transparent Allocation of Resources or STAR to support enabling activities, particularly National Communications.

Second, as part of GEF-5 reforms, countries can access resources for National Communications directly from the GEF without having to go through a GEF Agency. Alternatively, countries will also have the option to continue to receive resources and technical support through GEF Agencies as is current practice.

Mr. Chairman,

In summary, the GEF is fully committed to providing the highest level of service to countries as they look to prepare their National Communications. We look forward to hearing views of the Parties on the information provided by the GEF on these activities and welcome feedback.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.