

resources in accordance with Article 4.3 of the Convention, to do so as soon as possible, it being understood that Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial communications at their discretion;

2. *Requests* the Convention secretariat:

(a) To prepare the second compilation and synthesis of initial national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), based on submissions received from such Parties by 1 June 2000, and to make that report available to the subsidiary bodies with a view to its consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session;

(b) In preparing that compilation and synthesis, to report on problems encountered in using the guidelines for the preparation of initial national communications by non-Annex I Parties, and on other issues raised by non-Annex I Parties, with a view, among other things, to enhancing further the comparability and focus of the communications;

3. *Concludes*, with respect to the reporting of information by non-Annex I Parties that have submitted their initial national communications, that:

(a) Non-Annex I Parties are fulfilling their commitments under Article 4.1(a) of the Convention to make available to the Conference of the Parties national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol;

(b) Non-Annex I Parties are generally following the UNFCCC guidelines with a varied level of detail across the different communications;

4. *Concludes* that, in view of the problems encountered in the preparation of initial national communications, namely difficulties relating to the quality and availability of data, emission factors and methodologies for the integrated assessment of the effects of climate change and impacts of response measures, there is a need for maintaining and enhancing national capacities in non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of national communications;

5. *Concludes* that, although limitations have been encountered, the current guidelines facilitate reporting by Parties; that Parties have found ways to overcome these problems by providing additional information, particularly in relation to greenhouse gas inventories; and that further analysis of the problems in the use of the guidelines will be required when additional national communications are submitted;