

SBI Item 3(a)  
Geneva, July 1996

**National Communications from Annex I Parties: Schedule and  
Process for Consideration.**

Ireland on behalf of the EU notes document FCCC/CP/1996/13 (Process for review and schedule for submission of national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention) and in particular paragraph 25.

The EU is concerned that to date, only 6 in-depth review reports and their summaries have been finalised out of 21 in-depth reviews of national communications which have taken place. Although the EU recognises the difficulties faced by the Secretariat in completing the in-depth review reports, the EU does not believe that such difficulties should be addressed by delaying the deadline for the submission of second National Communications from Annex I Parties.

The country visits, associated with the in-depth reviews, have in the opinion of the EU been very helpful in focusing the attention of relevant actors within Parties on the challenges posed by the Convention. The skill and diplomacy with which the country visits were coordinated by the Secretariat and conducted by review teams, including experts from Annex I and non-Annex I Parties and intergovernmental organisations, has assisted the process to date.

The EU believes that the in-depth review process as described in Decision 2/CP.1 can provide a thorough and comprehensive technical assessment of the implementation of the Convention commitments. It can also considerably enrich the understanding of specific national circumstances which underlie differing starting points and approaches to climate change programmes. Accordingly the EU urges that the in-depth reviews for the first set of national communications from Annex I Parties should be completed in 1996 in accordance with paragraph 46, FCCC/SBSTA/1996/8.

If the secretariat does not have the resources necessary to complete this work, the EU urges the Executive Secretary to consider the need to deploy additional resources to this task and to make a proposal for consideration under agenda item SBI 7(b). The EU would welcome any such request from the Executive Secretary.