

(b) That the "principle of rotation" in paragraph 9 of the same text referred to the term of office of the members of the Multilateral Consultative Committee. In order to ensure continuity of experience on the Committee, the term of office of one third of the Parties designated as members should expire after one year, the term of office of one third of the members should expire after two years and the term of office of the remainder of the members should expire after three years. The members of the Multilateral Consultative Committee whose terms are to expire at the end of the above-mentioned initial periods of one, two and three years should be chosen by lot to be drawn by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change immediately after the Parties have been designated;

(c) That with regard to paragraphs 10 and 11 of the same text, the secretariat will arrange for and service the meetings of the Committee as well as provide such additional information as the Committee deems necessary to enable it to carry out its mandate as specified in paragraph 6.

11. The secretariat informed the AG13 that there is no provision in the Programme Budget for the year 1999 for work related to meetings of the proposed Multilateral Consultative Committee (see FCCC/CP/1997/INF.1, section II. C(i)). The resource implications of this proposal would need to be considered by the COP, along with any other new work arising from the deliberations of the other subsidiary bodies.

2. Conclusions

12. The AG13, having considered a proposal from the Chairman, decided to adopt the framework of the multilateral consultative process, set out in annex II below, subject to the matters contained in square brackets in its paragraphs 8 and 9. With regard to paragraph 9, some Parties were of the view that it follows from the structure of the Convention that the multilateral consultative process should follow a procedure that prescribed equal participation by Annex I and non-Annex I Parties in the Multilateral Consultative Committee. The representative of the Group of 77 and China speaking on behalf of the Group, stated that the Group stands by its position based on the well-established practice of the United Nations on the equitable geographical distribution principle. Despite sustained efforts, it was not possible to achieve consensus on these points at the sixth session of the AG13. In the event, however, that these outstanding issues are resolved at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, the COP may wish to adopt the multilateral consultative process under cover of the draft decision set out in annex III below.