

*Emphasizing* that capacity-building is a continuous process aimed at strengthening or establishing, as appropriate, relevant organizations, institutions and human resources in order to provide expertise in all areas relating to the implementation of the Convention,

*Emphasizing further* that an integrated approach should recognize the responsibility of individual Parties to promote conditions that are conducive to the development of human, institutional and technical capacity, and that every effort should be made to improve the coordination and effectiveness of existing efforts and promote participation of a wide range of actors and constituencies, including governments at all levels, international organizations, civil society and the private sector,

*Emphasizing also* the importance of creating an enabling environment for investment, which promotes capacity-building activities in developing countries,

*Noting* that capacity-building activities are conducted by United Nations agencies, international organizations and bilateral and multilateral institutions, including the Global Environment Facility as an operating entity of the financial mechanism,

1. *Decides* that:

(a) Financial and technical support for capacity-building activities for implementing the Convention in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, should be provided through the financial mechanism and through bilateral and multilateral agencies, as appropriate;

(b) Capacity-building activities related to the implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol should take fully into account the provisions of this decision;

(c) Existing capacity-building activities and programmes should be comprehensively assessed to determine their effectiveness and to identify gaps and weaknesses in ongoing efforts, and that the special needs of developing countries should be further elaborated in accordance with this decision, through a country-driven process, so as to take a comprehensive decision at its sixth session;

(d) UNFCCC national focal points or national authorities designated to handle climate change in developing countries should play a key role in the assessment referred to in paragraph 1(c) above and urges Parties included in Annex II to the Convention (Annex II Parties), the secretariat, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and relevant international organizations to assist in strengthening them for this purpose;

(e) The assessment should consider, *inter alia*, the following ways and means for capacity-building: