(v) To arrange for the provision of technical and financial support to developing country Parties in preparing national communications and in identifying the technical and financial needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4: and

(vi) To provide appropriate guidance to the Global Environment Facility on programme priorities and operational policies.

(b) That the consideration of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I will include the following tasks:

(i) Assess quantitative and qualitative information for consistency with applicable guidelines adopted by Parties;

(ii) Assess the overall aggregated effects of steps taken to implement the Convention;

(iii) Identify the informational, technical and financial needs of Parties not included in Annex I related to implementation of commitments; and in particular those associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4:

(iv) Describe progress in implementation of the Convention;

(v) Aggregate information contained in national communications;

(vi) Prepare a report on the application of guidelines for the preparation of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I with a view to further enhancing the accuracy, completeness, comparability and focus of national communications.

3. *Requests* the secretariat:

(a) To facilitate the provision of assistance to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of national communications;

(b) To coordinate and facilitate the consideration of national communications of Parties not included in Annex I;

(c) To select, under the guidance of the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies, the experts from names nominated by Parties to assist in this consideration process;

(d) To compile and synthesize information contained in individual national communications part of the annual report on implementation;

(e) To compile and make available to Parties, a compendium of projects and related information submitted by Parties not included in Annex I in accordance with Article 12.4;

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