

Submission by Hungary and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

This submission is supported by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

Budapest, 16 March 2011

Subject: Views from Parties on the synthesis report on the National Economic, Environment and Development Studies (NEEDS) for Climate Change Project.

1. The synthesis report provides an interesting and informative overview of the NEEDS project, in which 11 NAI Parties participated and 10 have reported so far.
2. The report shows that Parties used different approaches in implementing their respective studies, which resulted in significant variations in overall findings and estimates for short term (2020) and long term (2050) funding. For instance, the distinction between resources required for producing a thorough needs assessment and the needs for the actual implementation of concrete actions in mitigation and adaptation is not always completely clear. The report also shows a number of methodological differences and challenges (different reference years, different coverage, a variety of methodologies used for estimates, different nature of estimates). To some extent this is only natural, since this was and should remain a country-driven exercise respecting the existing differences between regions and countries.
3. In spite of the above mentioned methodological challenges, the report provides support for a number of general observations or conclusions:
 - in order to arrive at realistic cost estimates, robust assessments of financing needs are necessary at the country level, though they are hampered by institutional and methodological constraints;

- elements required to assist Parties in moving towards more coherent assessments are, for instance, developing the methodologies and the institutional frameworks, improved inter-institutional cooperation and coordination at the national level, improved access to information and expertise, and enhanced awareness-raising.
- 4. SBI may want to consider the outcomes, the lessons learned, and the recommendations and proposals included in the report. In this respect it is relevant to note, that several if not most of the issues raised by the report are somehow reflected in respective parts of the Cancun agreement, and that the report therefore could be communicated as background material to relevant bodies of the UNFCCC.