PART V : INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Governing body

Malaysia supports having a dedicated governing body through the establishment of Conference of the Parties (COP) as the main decision making body for the instrument, as usually practiced in other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). With regards to the function of this governing body, we would strongly propose for a specific function to ensure flow of financing and financial assistance to developing countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and least developed countries, and not merely providing guidance on financial needs for the implementation of measures under this instrument. We also support paragraph 57 for the governing body to prioritize inclusivity, fairness and to truly acknowledge common but differentiated responsibilities among Members.

2. Subsidiary bodies

Malaysia supports the establishment of Scientific, Technical and Economic Panels (STEPs) and further proposes for a dedicated subsidiary body for financial assistance and mechanism. This can also be consolidated as a subsidiary body on means of implementation as proposed by India, for the implementation of this instrument. This is to ensure flow of finance as well as means of implementation to Member States in implementing this important instrument.

On the composition of the subsidiary bodies, it is important to emphasize the need for a balanced and equitable geographical representation. However, we must also recognize that Asia Pacific region consists of close to 60 Member States, full of diversity. Therefore, Malaysia strongly suggests for the committee to allocate a dedicated seat for South East Asia representation; either within the three seats or one additional seat under the Asia Pacific region. This is to ensure a balanced perspective
in tracking and evaluating the progress as well as compliance issues unique to the South East Asia region.