

Scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil oral report by the secretariat at SBSTA 23

Parties may recall that SBSTA 17 agreed that work on the scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil should be continued by the scientific community and that such work should be of a standard consistent with the practices of peer-reviewed published science.

The SBSTA invited the scientific community to provide information on this work and encouraged research institutions and scientists involved to undertake further work on the proposal by Brazil, to make results publicly available and to report the progress of their work at the twentieth session of the SBSTA.

At SBSTA 20 (Bonn, June 2004) the secretariat organized a side event on the progress made since SBSTA 17 on the scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil. During this event, information on some of the findings of scientific work was presented.

Following from two expert meetings that were organized under the auspices of the SBSTA in 2001 and 2002, scientific and methodological work has been undertaken by the Ad-hoc group for the modeling and assessment of contributions to climate change. Since 2002, four meetings have taken place: in Berlin (September 2003), Cologne (May 2004), Rio de Janeiro (April 2005) and Reading, UK (October 2005).

The objective of this group is to assess methods for calculating the contribution of different emission sources to climate change and its impacts, taking into account uncertainties, and the sensitivity of the calculations to the use of different methods, models and methodological choices.

The expected outputs include:

- Provide clear guidance on the implications of the use of the different scientific methods, models, and methodological choices
- Where scientific arguments allow, recommend one method/model/choice or several possible methods/models/choices for each step of the calculation of contributions to climate change, taking into account scientific robustness, practicality and data availability
- Organization of expert meetings, workshops and a coordinated modelling exercise
- Prepare papers to be published in peer reviewed scientific journals

For more information, Parties can refer to the UNFCCC web site.