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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE  
Second session  
Geneva, 27 February - 4 March 1996  
Item 10 of the agenda

**REPORT OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

**Draft report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and  
Technological Advice on its second session**

**Addendum**

**NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**Agenda item 5 (a): Communications from Parties included in  
Annex I to the Convention**

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Officers of the SBSTA**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of the progress report on in-depth reviews (FCCC/SB/1996/2) and of the in-depth review reports issued so far (FCCC/IDR.1/CZE, FCCC/IDR.1/SWE, FCCC/IDR.1/AUS, FCCC/IDR.1/USA, FCCC/IDR.1/CAN, FCCC/IDR.1/CHE). The SBSTA endorsed the format, scope and approaches of the in-depth review reports and emphasized the importance of monitoring the overall implementation of the Convention. The SBSTA took note that the time schedule for these reviews as set by the first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 1) could not be met owing to resource limitations and/or scheduling problems. It stressed the importance of completing the first cycle of in-depth reviews by the end of 1996 and of issuing as many reports as possible before the next sessions of subsidiary bodies, with a view to holding a substantive discussion at those sessions.

2. The SBSTA endorsed the proposed outline and approaches to be taken during the second compilation and synthesis of first national communications, as suggested by the secretariat in its document FCCC/SB/1996/1. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to explore ways to use tables in the compilation of policies and measures and to describe national circumstances, *inter alia*, national policy targets.

3. The SBSTA took note of preliminary data presented in document FCCC/SB/1996/1/Add.1 on projections of emissions of greenhouse gases for the year 2000 which indicate that many Annex I Parties will have to make additional efforts beyond those included in projections in order to fulfil their aim of returning greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2000, and stressed the need for more transparency in the assumptions made in these projections.

4. The SBSTA recalled decision 3/CP.1 (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1) requesting Annex I Parties to submit to the secretariat national inventory data for the period 1990-1993 and, where available, for 1994 by 15 April 1996, and encouraged these Parties to submit these data at an earlier date to facilitate preparation of the second compilation and synthesis report. It recognized that Annex I Parties with economies in transition may exercise a certain degree of flexibility based on Article 4.6 of the Convention regarding these submissions.

5. The SBSTA invited Annex I Parties to forward to the secretariat their suggestions related to presentation of inventory data on the land use change and forestry sector for years subsequent to 1990 and on projections in this sector, as well as on aggregating data on greenhouse gases sources and sinks from this and other sectors, by 1 April 1996.

6. The SBSTA will consider technical aspects of the second compilation and synthesis report at its third session in order to draw relevant conclusions to the attention of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate at its fourth session and to the COP at its second session.

7. The SBSTA took note of document FCCC/SBSTA/1996/3 and endorsed the proposals regarding the revisions to the Guidelines to ensure consistency with COP decisions. The SBSTA requested that revised guidelines contain more specific guidance on the description of policies and measures and their effects, projections and underlying assumptions and technological cooperation and transfer using, where feasible, standardized formats and tables. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit views on possible revisions to the Guidelines as suggested in document FCCC/SBSTA/1996/3 by 1 April 1996.

8. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a report suggesting possible revisions to the Guidelines, taking into account the submissions by Parties and the experience from the review process, for consideration at its third session, aiming at adopting revised guidelines in time for the preparation of second national communications by Annex I Parties.

9. The SBSTA, with a view to overcoming inconsistencies in the presentation of data on inventories, requested the secretariat to address issues such as temperature adjustments, electricity trade, bunker fuels, use of global warming potentials, land use change, and forestry in the documentation to be prepared for consideration by the SBSTA at its third session.

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