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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE  
Seventeenth session  
New Delhi, 23–29 October 2002  
Agenda item 9

**COOPERATION WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

Cooperation with other conventions

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted with appreciation the statements made by the representatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Ramsar Convention, relating to their current activities and their links with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The SBSTA noted that the Conference of the Parties to the CBD welcomed the establishment of the Joint Liaison Group (JLG).
2. The SBSTA noted the potential relevance of the report on wetlands and climate change, prepared by the Scientific and Technical Panel of the Ramsar Convention, to ongoing activities under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, in particular with regard to impacts of, and adaptation to, climate change. It reiterated the need for the JLG to invite the secretariat of the Ramsar Convention to share information and to participate in the meetings of the JLG, as appropriate.
3. The SBSTA reiterated the relevance of the technical paper by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the interlinkages between biological diversity and climate change, as a valuable input to the work on cooperation between conventions.
4. The SBSTA took note of the information provided in document FCCC/SBSTA/2002/INF.16 on cross-cutting thematic areas and activities under the UNCCD, CBD and UNFCCC, and welcomed the participation of the members of the JLG in the preparation of this document.
5. The SBSTA noted the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) relevant to cooperation between conventions, and welcomed information on the activities of the JLG during this event.
6. The SBSTA noted that the process of enhancing cooperation between the conventions should recognize the different mandates of the three conventions, preserve the rights of the Parties to the respective conventions, be transparent to the Parties, and aim to avoid duplication of work, use resources efficiently, capture synergies, and identify potential areas of conflict. It emphasized the need to strengthen coordination of national focal points as an essential task for achieving these objectives.

7. The SBSTA confirmed its proposal to combine a workshop on these matters with the workshop specified in decision 5/CP.7, paragraph 36. It requested the secretariat, in cooperation with other members of the JLG and subject to the availability of supplementary funding, to organize a workshop as a first step in the process of enhancing collaboration between the conventions, before the eighteenth session of the SBSTA, if possible. The SBSTA urged Parties in a position to do so to provide funding for the workshop.

8. The SBSTA recommended the following terms of reference for the workshop and invited the SBI to consider and agree on them:

(a) The objectives of the workshop should be to prepare guidance to the national focal point of each convention and to contribute to enhancing coordination and communication between them;

(b) The workshop should identify options to increase cooperation and capture synergies among the conventions in existing mechanisms, particularly the exchange of information, in areas such as technology transfer, education and outreach, research and systematic observation, capacity-building, reporting, and impacts and adaptation.

9. The SBSTA agreed to further consider the process of enhancing cooperation between conventions at its eighteenth session, taking into account the outcome of the workshop, in order to provide additional guidance to the secretariat and to Parties, with the aim of recommending a draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session.

10. The SBSTA decided to recommend a draft decision on cooperation with other conventions (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/L.18/Add.1) for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session.

#### Cooperation with scientific organizations and United Nations bodies

11. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the statement made by the representative of the IPCC on the IPCC technical paper, *Biodiversity and Climate Change*, on IPCC activities relating to geological carbon storage, on the plans for the fourth assessment report, and on the IPCC programme on land use, land-use change and forestry.

12. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the statements made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the World Conservation Union, on their activities relevant to the UNFCCC.

13. The SBSTA recognized the importance of taking into account the work of international and intergovernmental organizations and policy processes relevant to the activities of the UNFCCC.

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