

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE Twenty-second session Bonn, 19–27 May 2005

Agenda item 8 Research needs relating to the Convention

Research needs relating to the Convention

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of documents FCCC/SBSTA/2004/MISC.14 and FCCC/SBSTA/2005/MISC.1 containing views on issues from the research event at the twentieth session of the SBSTA, and document FCCC/SBSTA/2005/3 containing a synthesis of these views.

2. The SBSTA welcomed efforts of the national, regional and international global change research programmes to further promote and coordinate research in response to the needs of the Convention, and invited them to provide periodic updates on their scientific activities. In this respect, the SBSTA also welcomed the establishment of the Earth System Science Partnership by the International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme, the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, the World Climate Research Programme and DIVERSITAS, and the efforts of these programmes and of regional institutions and networks including, but not limited to, the Asia–Pacific Network for Global Change Research and the Inter American Institute for Global Change Research.

3. The SBSTA also welcomed the endorsement of the 10-year Implementation Plan at the third Earth Observation Summit in February 2005 which establishes the Global Earth Observation System of Systems as an important development in systematic observation to contribute to the enhancement of climate change research, as well as the continuing contribution of the Global Climate Observing System to this process.

4. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 15 January 2006, information on identified research needs and priorities relating to the Convention, including information relating to the enhancement of the capacity of developing countries to contribute to and participate in climate change research.

5. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report of the research needs and priorities relating to the Convention, identified in documents FCCC/SBSTA/2002/INF.17 and FCCC/SBSTA/2005/3, in submissions by Parties referred to in paragraph 4 above, in national communications, and in the Third Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

and to make this synthesis report available to Parties and to relevant regional and international climate change research programmes before the twenty-fourth session of the SBSTA (May 2006).

6. The SBSTA agreed to consider the synthesis report referred to in paragraph 5 above at its twenty-fourth session.

7. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a special side event during its twenty-fourth session with the objective of enhancing communication between climate change research organizations and the SBSTA. It requested the secretariat to invite Parties and relevant climate change research programmes and institutions to the special side event to inform participants on their activities relating to addressing the research needs of the Convention, including activities to enhance the participation of developing countries in climate change research.

8. The SBSTA stressed the need to continue to work towards enhancing the research capacity of developing countries and hence their contribution to national, regional and international climate change research efforts. The SBSTA welcomed activities by governments, including those undertaken on a bilateral basis, and by organizations, aimed at enhancing the contributions by experts from developing countries to international climate change research, and called for furthering such efforts.

9. The SBSTA noted that improved scientific understanding of climate change can inform the development of technologies for mitigation and adaptation being addressed by the SBSTA as part of its consideration of matters relating to technology development and transfer and elsewhere under the Convention.

10. The SBSTA decided to recommend a draft decision on research needs relating to the Convention (FCCC/SBSTA/2005/L.6/Add.1) for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session.

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