



SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Twenty-ninth session

Poznan, 1–10 December 2008

Agenda item 6

Research and systematic observation

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted with appreciation the oral statements delivered by the Director of the secretariat of the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS) and by a representative of Thailand¹ speaking on behalf of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS). The SBSTA also noted with appreciation a statement delivered by the Chair of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) Steering Committee.
2. The SBSTA welcomed the report prepared by the GTOS secretariat on progress made in assessing the status of the development of standards for each of the essential climate variables in the terrestrial domain, which includes information on the framework for the preparation of guidance materials, standards and reporting guidelines for terrestrial observing systems for climate.² The SBSTA also welcomed the updated report submitted by CEOS on progress made by space agencies involved in global observations in implementing actions in response to the GCOS implementation plan.³
3. The SBSTA agreed to defer consideration of these reports to its thirtieth session, when it will also consider the comprehensive report on progress with the GCOS implementation plan that the GCOS secretariat is expected to provide to the SBSTA at that session. The SBSTA recalled its invitation to Parties to provide additional information on their national activities with respect to implementing the GCOS implementation plan.⁴ It noted that 21 Parties have provided such information⁵ and encouraged those that have not yet done so to submit this information by 30 January 2009.

¹ A representative of the United States of America delivered the statement on behalf of a representative of Thailand, the incoming Chair of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2008/MISC.12.

³ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/MISC.11.

⁴ See FCCC/SBSTA/2005/10, paragraphs 94 and 95, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/16, paragraph 36.

⁵ Information received by Parties has been posted on the UNFCCC website at http://unfccc.int/methods_and_science/research_and_systematic_observation/items/4499.php.