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**SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

**Thirtieth session**

**Bonn, 1–10 June 2009**

**Agenda item 7 (d)**

**Methodological issues under the Convention**

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines for national greenhouse gas inventories**

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines for national  
greenhouse gas inventories**

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) recalled that, at its twenty-fourth session, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) made available the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines),<sup>1</sup> as requested by the SBSTA at its seventeenth session.
2. At its twenty-sixth session, the SBSTA had agreed to continue its consideration of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines at its thirtieth session and encouraged Parties in a position to do so to gain experience with these guidelines.<sup>2</sup> The SBSTA welcomed the submissions subsequently received from Parties on their experience in using the guidelines. These submissions also contain information on further considerations related to the future revision of the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories” (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines) and considerations related to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, and are compiled in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.3.
3. The SBSTA acknowledged that the 2006 IPCC Guidelines contain the most recent scientific methodologies available to estimate emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, and recognized that Parties have gained experience with the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. The SBSTA also acknowledged that the information contained in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines enables Parties to further improve the quality of their GHG inventories. It further acknowledged the need to address methodological issues arising from the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, including, inter alia, those listed in the annex, in relation to reporting of anthropogenic emissions and removals of GHGs under the Convention.

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<sup>1</sup> <<http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/index.htm>>.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2007/14, paragraphs 55 and 56.

4. The SBSTA agreed that the process for Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) to implement the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines should be through a revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines, including the common reporting format (CRF) tables, taking into consideration the methodological issues in paragraph 3 above.

5. In undertaking a revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines, the SBSTA also noted the need to take into account the ongoing considerations under the Convention.

6. The SBSTA agreed to launch a work programme in 2010 for the revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines, including the CRF tables, with a view to recommending revised UNFCCC reporting guidelines for adoption by the Conference of the Parties, for regular use starting in 2015.

7. The SBSTA agreed on the scope of the work programme, covering the revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines and addressing the methodological issues related to reporting when using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, as presented in the annex.

8. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 15 February 2010, their views on the following issues for compilation into a miscellaneous document:

- (a) The process and timelines for implementing the work programme referred to in paragraph 6 above;
- (b) Issues related to the revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines;
- (c) Methodological issues related to reporting when using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines;
- (d) Areas in which the SBSTA may consider inviting the IPCC to carry out additional work and contribute to the work programme.

9. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to synthesize these submissions into a report for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-second session.

10. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize, subject to the availability of resources, two workshops on this work programme in 2010: one in the first half of the year, and the other in the second half. The first workshop should address key issues relating to the revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines and the second should address the methodological issues related to reporting when using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. Both workshops should cover issues included in the submissions referred to in paragraph 8 above and also those contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.3.

11. The SBSTA invited Annex I Parties in a position to do so to provide financial support for these workshops.

12. The SBSTA noted the need for capacity-building to facilitate all Parties' use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. The SBSTA also noted the work of the IPCC that is helping to facilitate the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, including its efforts to develop inventory software and the emission factor database.<sup>3</sup> It invited the IPCC and other relevant organizations to strengthen their efforts in this area, including on the elements of the work programme contained in the annex.

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<sup>3</sup> <<http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/EFDB/main.php>>.

Annex

**Elements of the work programme for the revision of the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories”**

1. The SBSTA identified a range of issues related to the revision of the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories” (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines) and methodological issues related to reporting when using the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines), as described in paragraph 2 of this document.
2. The revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines should cover, inter alia:
  - (a) Time-series consistency and recalculations with respect to applying the methodologies contained in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines;
  - (b) Mandatory and non-mandatory reporting requirements;
  - (c) Coverage of gases to be reported by Parties (indirect emissions and additional gases);
  - (d) Sectors and source/sink categories;
  - (e) Presentation of national totals;
  - (f) Revision of the common reporting format tables;
  - (g) Linkages between inventory reporting and a national inventory system;
  - (h) The relationship between the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and previous guidelines of the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change;<sup>1</sup>
  - (i) The transition period from the current to the revised UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines including the flexibility allowed to Parties included in Annex I to the Convention undergoing the process of transition to a market economy in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Convention;
  - (j) Outline and elements of national inventory reports.

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<sup>1</sup> Such as the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, the *Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* and the *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry*.

3. The methodological issues related to reporting when using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines should cover, inter alia:

- (a) Agriculture, forestry and other land use issues related to the reporting of anthropogenic emissions and removals such as: treatment of emissions and removals from natural disturbance; and inter-annual variability between the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, the *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry* and the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*; and managed land proxy;
- (b) Carbon dioxide capture and storage;
- (c) Options for updating or adding default parameters;
- (d) Indirect carbon dioxide and indirect nitrous oxide emissions;
- (e) Elaboration of good practice guidance for the use and reporting of tier 3 approaches.

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