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Thirty-second session

Bonn, 31 May to 9 June 2010

Agenda item 16 (a–d)

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Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

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Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

A. Sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties

B. Sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) expressed its gratitude to the Government of Mexico for its generous offer to host the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010. It took note with appreciation of the preparations and efforts being undertaken by the Government of Mexico and the secretariat to convene COP 16 and CMP 6 in order to facilitate the success of those sessions.
2. The SBI noted with appreciation the logo presented by the Government of Mexico for COP 16 and CMP 6. The SBI requested that the secretariat take steps to ensure that any official logo, poster or other material that appears at UNFCCC climate conferences or on official websites refers to the COP and the CMP and gives them equal treatment.
3. The SBI requested the secretariat to take note of the views expressed by Parties on the possible elements of the provisional agendas for COP 16 and CMP 6.

4. The SBI agreed that arrangements be made for the delivery of concise national statements by ministers and other heads of delegation,¹ with a recommended time limit of three minutes, and also concise statements by representatives of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, with a recommended time limit of two minutes, in the joint meetings of the COP and the CMP during the high-level segment.
5. The SBI considered the option that a high-level session be held between the thirty-second sessions of the SBI and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the sixteenth session of the COP and the sixth session of the CMP. The SBI noted the views of Parties on this issue.
6. The SBI, recalling decisions 1/CP.15 and 1/CMP.5, invited the Bureau of COP 15 and CMP 5 to finalize the details of the arrangements for COP 16 and CMP 6, including arrangements for the high-level segment, in consultation with the President-designate of COP 16 and CMP 6 and the secretariat. The SBI also recalled the conclusions from the eleventh session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) and the ninth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) (April 2010), where Parties agreed to convene AWG-LCA 13 and AWG-KP 15 in conjunction with COP 16 and CMP 6 for as long as necessary.² The SBI stressed the importance of the principles of transparency and inclusiveness in the lead-up to and during COP 16 and CMP 6.

C. Future sessional periods

1. Sessions in 2010

7. The SBI took note of the information provided by the secretariat on the preparations for AWG-KP 13 and AWG-LCA 11, to be held from 2 to 6 August 2010 at the Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany.
8. The SBI expressed its gratitude to the Government of China for its generous offer to host AWG-KP 14 and AWG-LCA 12. It also requested the Executive Secretary to continue consultations with the Government of China and to conclude the necessary legal arrangements within a reasonable time before the opening of the sessions.
9. The SBI noted that organizing these additional sessions in 2010 will require resources that have not been provided for in the core budget of the UNFCCC for 2010–2011 or in the United Nations allocation for conference services for the UNFCCC. Parties are therefore urged to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities as soon as possible to cover the organizational aspect of these sessions and to the Trust Fund for Participation in the UNFCCC Process aimed at funding two delegates from each eligible Party and a third delegate from least developed countries and small island developing States.
10. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Governments of Norway and Spain, who have already made financial contributions to support the organization of the sessions in 2010, the Governments of Denmark, Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for their firm written pledges, and the Governments of Australia, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Spain and Switzerland for their contributions towards the Trust Fund for Participation in the UNFCCC Process.

¹ Statements may also be made by other high-level representatives.

² FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/3, paragraph 25, and FCCC/KP/AWG/2010/3, paragraph 21.

2. Other sessional periods

11. The SBI noted that participation in sessions has grown substantially in recent years, which poses increasing challenges at the facilities currently used for sessions in Bonn. The SBI requested the secretariat in collaboration with the host Government to seek practical interim solutions for the period until the opening of the new conference facilities to accommodate the growing number of participants, and to address relevant logistical arrangements.

12. The SBI recalled that the Government of South Africa would host COP 17 and CMP 7 from 28 November to 9 December 2011.³ The SBI looked forward to receiving further information on the organization and planning of the conference. It thanked the Government of South Africa for its ongoing efforts in preparing for these sessions.

13. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among regional groups, the President of COP 18 and CMP 8 would come from the Asian Group. The SBI also noted the ongoing consultations with regard to hosting COP 18 and CMP 8, and looked forward to receiving the results of these consultations, with a view to a decision being taken at COP 16 on this matter.

14. The SBI agreed to defer consideration of the dates for the sessional periods in 2014 and 2015 to its thirty-fourth session. It recalled its recommendation in previous conclusions that future sessions be scheduled from mid-week to mid-week.⁴

15. The SBI invited Parties to come forward with offers to host future sessions of the COP and the CMP.

D. Organization of the intergovernmental process

16. The SBI recommended that the secretariat, in organizing future sessional periods follow the practice of holding no more than two meetings of plenary and/or contact groups concurrently with the total number of meetings held concurrently, including informals, not exceeding six, to the extent possible. It also recommended that the secretariat continue to take into consideration, when scheduling meetings, the constraints of delegations and avoid clashes on similar issues to the extent possible.

17. The SBI recalled its recommendation in previous conclusions that all meetings end by 6 p.m., particularly to give Parties and regional groups sufficient time to prepare for daily meetings, but may, in exceptional circumstances, and on a case by case basis, continue for two to three hours.⁵

E. Observer organizations

18. The SBI welcomed the continued interest of observer organizations and noted that the UNFCCC process now covers all nine major groups in Agenda 21. The SBI affirmed the value of the engagement of observer organizations as contained in Article 7, paragraph 2 (l), of the Convention, and acknowledged the important role of civil society representation in the intergovernmental process. The SBI took note of the increased engagement of observer organizations, as well as of the information provided by the Government of Mexico, to facilitate the participation of such organizations at COP 16 and CMP 6. The SBI encouraged hosts of future sessions of the COP and the CMP to consider, in their planning and organization, the size of the venue and the need to facilitate the participation of all Parties and admitted observer organizations.

³ Decision 13/CP.15

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2009/8, paragraph 115.

⁵ As footnote 4 above.

19. The SBI agreed to continue discussions on this issue at its thirty-third session, with a view to reaching conclusions on ways to enhance the engagement of observer organizations. In order to facilitate these discussions, the SBI invited Parties and observer organizations to submit their views on this matter to the secretariat no later than 16 August 2010.

20. It further requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report based on the submissions referred to in paragraph 19 above for consideration at its thirty-third session.
