



---

## **Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice**

**Thirty-seventh session**

**Doha, 26 November to 1 December 2012**

Agenda item 11(b)

**Methodological issues under the Convention**

**Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties**

### **Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties**

#### **Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) continued its consideration of the work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties (hereinafter referred to as the review guidelines), in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 28.
2. The SBSTA took note of the information contained in the technical paper<sup>1</sup> prepared by the secretariat on the current review processes under the Convention and the secretariat's experience with coordinating reviews of national communications and annual greenhouse gas inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties).
3. The SBSTA also took note of:
  - (a) The submissions from Parties on the elements of the work programme, the timeline of proposed activities and the key elements of the revision of the review guidelines;<sup>2</sup>
  - (b) The synthesis report on these submissions.<sup>3</sup>
4. The SBSTA agreed on the work programme on the revision of the review guidelines, as contained in the annex, with specific timelines and activities for 2013 and 2014. However, the SBSTA noted that while the revision of review guidelines for national

---

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/TP/2012/8.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.17 and Add.1.

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.11.

communications and biennial reports will be completed by the nineteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), the revision of review guidelines for greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories can only be completed by COP 20. Although the activities related to the revision of the review guidelines on national communications and biennial reports contained in the work programme are currently considered in conjunction, the SBSTA agreed that the work programme should ensure delineation between the review guidelines on biennial reports and review guidelines on national communications.

5. The SBSTA agreed that in their consideration of the activities under the work programme on the revision of the review guidelines, Parties should take into account the experience with the review of information submitted by Annex I Parties under the Convention, including the submissions from Parties, the synthesis reports on these submissions and the secretariat's experience with coordinating reviews of national communications and annual GHG inventories of Annex I Parties, and the need to have a cost-effective, efficient and practical review process that does not impose an excessive burden on Parties, experts or the secretariat.

6. The SBSTA requested the lead reviewers to discuss, at their meeting in 2013, options to improve the cost-effectiveness, efficiency and practicality of the review process, and requested the secretariat to make the outcome of their discussions available as inputs to discussions at SBSTA 38.

7. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize technical workshops in 2013 and 2014 as part of the work programme to advance the work and address the issues identified by Parties in their submissions referred to in paragraph 3(a) above and in paragraph 9 below. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to prepare workshop reports in order to reflect the progress of the work on the revision of review guidelines and to provide inputs to discussions at SBSTA sessions. Additional workshops will be organized as necessary.

8. The SBSTA agreed that the first workshop will be held in the second half of 2013 to discuss the overall approach to the review process related to biennial reports, national communications and GHG inventories, as well as the revision of the review guidelines for biennial reports and national communications. The SBSTA further agreed to hold the second workshop in the first half of 2014 to continue discussions on the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories.

9. The SBSTA agreed that it will invite submissions from Parties and requested the secretariat to prepare synthesis reports on these submissions in accordance with the work programme.

10. The SBSTA also agreed that the work programme could be adjusted at subsequent sessions of the SBSTA and that there could be additional workshops before COP 20.

11. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat pursuant to the provisions contained in paragraphs 7 and 9 above.

12. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

## Annex

### Draft of the work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties

	Activities	Timeline
Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 37)	<p>The SBSTA, at its thirty-seventh session, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt the work programme with specific timelines in order to adopt the review guidelines for national communications (NCs) and the review guidelines for biennial reports (BRs) by the Conference of the Parties (COP) 19 and the revision of review guidelines for greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories by COP 20;</li> <li>• Request the lead reviewers to discuss, in their 2013 meeting, options to improve the cost-effectiveness, efficiency and practicality of the review process;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to make the outcome of the discussions of lead reviewers available as inputs to discussions at SBSTA 38;</li> </ul> <p><i>NCs and BRs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite Parties to submit additional views on the overall approach and views on the structure, outline, key elements and content of the review guidelines for NCs and BRs by 15 July 2013;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report and draft revised review guidelines for NCs and review guidelines for BRs, based on Parties' submissions by 15 September 2013;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to organize the first technical workshop in October 2013;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to prepare a report on the first workshop, containing the draft revised review guidelines for NCs and review guidelines for BRs, as input to the discussions at SBSTA 39;</li> </ul> <p><i>GHG inventories</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite Parties to submit their detailed views on the structure, outline, key elements and content of the review guidelines for 15 February 2014;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to prepare the synthesis report and draft revised review guidelines for GHG inventories by 30 March 2014, as an input to SBSTA 39 and the second technical workshop;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to hold the second technical workshop in April 2014;</li> <li>• Request the secretariat to prepare a report on the second workshop, containing the draft revised review guidelines for GHG inventories, as input to discussions at SBSTA 40;</li> <li>• Invite Parties to submit further views on the updated draft of the revised review guidelines for GHG</li> </ul>	November to December 2012

	inventories by 15 July 2014;	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request the secretariat to include those Parties' views in the annotated draft of the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories by 15 September 2014, as an input to discussions at SBSTA 41.</li> </ul>	
SBSTA 38	The SBSTA to continue its consideration of the overall approach to streamlining the review process, and the structure, outline, key elements and content of review guidelines for NCs and BRs.	June 2013
Technical workshop 1	Parties to address the overall structure and approach to the revised review guidelines for NCs, BRs and GHG inventories and to discuss the draft of the revised review guidelines for NCs and review guidelines for BRs, based on the Parties' submissions and the outcome of the discussions of lead reviewers at their meeting in 2013.	October 2013
SBSTA 39	<p>The SBSTA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize its consideration of the draft revised review guidelines for NCs and review guidelines for BRs, with a view to preparing a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its nineteenth session;</li> <li>• Assess progress with the work programme and make adjustments as needed.</li> </ul>	November 2013
COP 19	The COP adopts the revised review guidelines for NCs and review guidelines for BRs.	November 2013
Technical workshop 2	Parties to continue discussions on the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories and principles for streamlining the review process of GHG inventories.	April 2014
SBSTA 40	<p>The SBSTA to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue its consideration of the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories and to provide recommendations and conclusions on the draft of the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories, with a view to reflecting its progress in an annotated draft of the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories to facilitate their consideration by SBSTA 41;</li> <li>• Discuss the synthesis report on the views of Parties on the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories and principles for streamlining the review process of GHG inventories.</li> </ul>	June 2014
SBSTA 41	The SBSTA to finalize its consideration of the annotated draft revised review guidelines for GHG inventories, with a view to preparing a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its twentieth session.	December 2014
COP 20	The COP adopts the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories.	December 2014

---