



United Nations

FCCC/SBSTA/2016/L.17



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Distr.: Limited
25 May 2016

Original: English

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Forty-fourth session

Bonn, 16–26 May 2016

Agenda item 6(a)

Matters relating to science and review

Research and systematic observation

Research and systematic observation

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted with appreciation the statements delivered by the representatives of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).
2. The SBSTA took note of the information submitted by Parties¹ for the eighth meeting of the research dialogue,² held on 19 May 2016, and on themes for a possible research workshop in conjunction with SBSTA 46 (May 2017). It also noted the information note on the eighth meeting of the research dialogue prepared by the SBSTA Chair³ and the letter to the SBSTA Chair from the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts.⁴
3. The SBSTA welcomed the information that the IPCC, in response to an invitation from the Conference of the Parties,⁵ will produce a special report in 2018 on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas (GHG) emission pathways. It also welcomed the decision of the IPCC to produce two other special reports – one on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and GHG fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems and the other on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere – and a methodology report on greenhouse gas inventories.

¹ Available at <<http://unfccc.int/5900>>.

² Information on the research dialogue is available at <<http://unfccc.int/6793>>.

³ See <<http://unfccc.int/files/science/workstreams/research/application/pdf/researchdialogue.2016.1.informationnote.pdf>>.

⁴ See <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/loss_and_damage_executive_committee/application/pdf/excom_letter_to_sbsta_chair_on_researchdialogue.pdf>.

⁵ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 21.

GE.16-08411(E)



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4. The SBSTA welcomed the eighth meeting of the research dialogue. It expressed its appreciation to Parties, GCOS, the IPCC, WCRP, the World Meteorological Organization and all participating research programmes and organizations for their contributions. It noted the usefulness of a poster session and invited the SBSTA Chair to continue to use this modality. It requested the SBSTA Chair to produce a summary report on the meeting, to be made available before SBSTA 45 (November 2016).
5. The SBSTA noted the importance of addressing regional climate research and data needs. It encouraged relevant research programmes and organizations to present their efforts, including activities they are undertaking such as regional workshops, to identify relevant climate research and data information and gaps at the research dialogue meeting to be held at SBSTA 46 (May 2017).
6. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit by 10 April 2017 their views on possible topics for consideration at the research dialogue to be held at SBSTA 46 and beyond, taking into account the themes and presentations already addressed at previous research dialogue meetings and the themes suggested for future meetings, as identified in annex I to the information note referred to in paragraph 2 above, as well as the encouragement referred to in paragraph 5 above.⁶
7. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 5 above. It requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

⁶ Parties should submit their views via the submissions portal at <<http://www.unfccc.int/5900>>.