

**Chair's Summary of the
In-session Workshop on Mitigation of Climate Change
SBSTA 22**

Chair Mr. Amjad Abdulla

The SBSTA, at its 21st session, requested the secretariat to organize a workshop, under the guidance of the SBSTA Chair, to exchange information and share experiences and views on factors that affect mitigation technology innovation, deployment and diffusion and on socio-economic aspects of mitigation.

The in-session workshop, which was a continuation of SBSTA's work in its previous sessions was held on Monday 23 May. The workshop was chaired by SBSTA Vice-Chair Mr. Amjad Abdulla.

Presenters at this workshop were selected by the secretariat, in consultation with the SBSTA Chair based on the submissions of Parties, and the priority areas that these submissions identified.

The workshop was organized in two sessions. The first focused on "Factors that affect mitigation technology innovation, deployment and diffusion, (including international cooperative efforts, and identification and removal of barriers). Mr. Kok Seng Yap of Malaysia facilitated this session.

The second session addressed "Socio-economic aspects of mitigation, (such as costs and benefits, co-benefits, poverty reduction and economic impacts, including spillover effects)". Mr. Toshiyuki Sakamoto of Japan facilitated this session.

The session summaries below were provided by the workshop facilitators in consultation with the Chair.

Session I: Factors that affect mitigation technology innovation, deployment and diffusion (including international cooperative efforts, and identification and removal of barriers)

- We had four speakers for the first session on technology. These speakers covered a range of topics, which are relevant for SBSTA's ongoing consideration.

- We heard an informative presentation on the scope of international cooperation on technology for climate change mitigation, and the opportunities to further enhance such cooperation in the future. This presentation provided a useful backdrop for the presentations that followed.
- The next participant considered the relative effects of economy-wide versus sector or technology specific policies for promoting technological change.
- We then heard about the barriers to capital investment in energy technologies from the perspective of the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka.
- The next participant discussed Japan's experiences and lessons-learned with bilateral cooperative efforts in energy technologies.

I would like to offer several observations from the presentations made at the session:

- The scale of emission reductions needed to achieve climate stabilization is enormous, and significant technological change is required to meet this challenge.
- Both the deployment of current energy-efficient technologies and the development of new technologies in the long-term are critical. Different policy approaches may be necessary to meet both objectives.
- There will be no single technology solution to solve the climate change problem, but rather a portfolio of technologies will be needed. Carbon-capture and storage is likely to be a critical component of the long-term climate change mitigation portfolio.
- Governments have an important role to play in sending policy signals to stimulate technological change, and in overcoming barriers to technology deployment and development. International cooperation, large-scale and long-term investment, as well as private sector involvement will also be very important.

Session II: Socio-economic aspects of mitigation, (such as costs and benefits, co-benefits, poverty reduction and economic impacts, including spillover effects)

- The second panel had three speakers:
- The first speaker discussed an integrated assessment framework for considering the costs and benefits of GHG mitigation, in particular health benefits from corresponding benefits in air pollutants, and experiences in the application of this framework in several developing countries.
- We then heard about the possible spillover effects of mitigation policies to other countries, and the manner in which the choice of policy instrument affects the magnitude and distribution of these spillover effects.
- Our final speaker considered the Clean Development Mechanism as a vehicle for promoting sustainable development.

I will offer some observations from session two.

- First, the local health benefits of integrated measures which address both greenhouse gas emissions and air quality can outweigh the costs of these measures. We learned that there is clear correlation between local pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Second, tools to facilitate consideration of the socio-economic impacts are important for evaluating and selecting appropriate mitigation actions.
- Third, we should also recognize that mitigation actions by some countries can have both negative and positive spill-over effects on other countries. These spillover effects may differ greatly by region and type of economy, as well as by type of policy instrument.
- Fourth, there is expectation in developing countries that CDM should contribute more to sustainable development. More energy or CO₂-targetted projects would help meet these objectives.

That concludes my summary of session two. I would like to thank the secretariat for its support in organizing a productive and interesting workshop.