



SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Eighteenth session

Bonn, 4–13 June 2003

Agenda item 4 (a)

METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

**REVIEW OF METHODOLOGICAL WORK UNDER THE CONVENTION
AND THE KYOTO PROTOCOL**

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of the initial views by Parties on needs for specific methodological activities and on a strategic approach to future methodological work, contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.3, and of the information provided in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.1 containing a synthesis of the views submitted by Parties and provisional elements of a possible work programme.
2. The SBSTA noted that, consistent with a strategic approach, methodological work should be relevant and beneficial to all Parties, and should aim, inter alia, at better serving the subsidiary bodies, the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, assisting Parties in implementing the commitments under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, supporting needs of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol for future decision-making, and elaborating the future climate change process. It further noted the need to organize the methodological work in an effective and efficient manner, for example in such a way as to maximize synergies and minimize duplication. In this regard the SBSTA noted the need to prioritize its methodological work, taking into account discussions under various agenda items.
3. The SBSTA noted the importance of reliable information. In this respect, it considered the proposal, contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.3/Add.1, for the development of a data interface to improve access to data by individual Parties, and requested the secretariat to prepare, for consideration at its nineteenth session, a paper taking stock of availability, accessibility and comparability of existing sources of emissions data and relevant socio-economic data. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to develop options for the development, hosting and management of a data interface, including cost implications, for consideration by the SBSTA at its nineteenth session. The SBSTA decided to further consider the proposal contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.3/Add.1 at its nineteenth session.
4. The SBSTA decided to continue consideration, at its nineteenth session, of proposals by Parties on provisional elements of a possible future work programme. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit, by

15 August 2003, their further views on elements of a possible future work programme, taking into account the considerations referred to in paragraph 2 above. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to update the annex to these conclusions, taking into account submissions by Parties, to facilitate the further discussion of this issue by the SBSTA at its nineteenth session.

5. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the information provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on the planned work to revise the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. The SBSTA invited the IPCC:

(a) To take note of document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.1 and views submitted by Parties contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.3;

(b) To report to the SBSTA, at its nineteenth and possibly future sessions, on the progress of its work on the revision of the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

Annex*

[INITIAL PROPOSALS BY PARTIES ON ELEMENTS OF A POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

Table A. Work based on current and planned activities

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
<p>1. The IPCC is preparing a revision of its <i>Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i> (IPCC Guidelines) and aims to complete the work by early 2006. The SBSTA, at its seventeenth session, requested the secretariat to provide information on the methodologies and data used by Parties to estimate GHG emissions and removals by sinks, taking into account results of the trial period of annual inventory reviews (decision 6/CP.5), to support, inter alia, the work relating to the revision of the current IPCC Guidelines,^a with the aim of preparing initial information for consideration at SBSTA 19. Parties have provided specific views on this task (FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.3 and Add.1).</p>		<p>Provision of additional views to the IPCC relating to the scope and nature of the revision.</p> <p>Secretariat to provide information on experiences by Parties using IPCC methodologies and guidelines, taking into account the technical review process and the work of the CGE.</p>	<p>(a) IPCC to report on progress of its work.</p> <p>(b) Parties may wish to provide additional guidance for the IPCC.</p> <p>(c) Secretariat to prepare a compilation and a synthesis of information from Parties.</p> <p>(d) Close cooperation with other Conventions (e.g. CRLTAP).^b</p>	<p>(a) The IPCC.</p> <p>(b) The SBSTA.</p> <p>(c) The secretariat.</p> <p>(d) Relevant Conventions (e.g. CRLTAP).</p>	<p>(a) SBSTA 18 and possibly future sessions thereafter.</p> <p>(b) SBSTA 18 and possibly thereafter during the revision of IPCC guidelines.</p> <p>(c) An initial report in 2003.</p>

^a The SBSTA, at its seventeenth session, invited the IPCC to take into consideration the relevant work under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, including work by the SBSTA, the SBI, and the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE), and the technical review of GHG inventories of Annex I Parties.

^b Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

* Issued in English only.

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
<p>2. The IPCC is developing, at the invitation of the COP at its seventh session, a report on <i>Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry</i> and aims to complete the work by the second half of 2003.</p> <p>Based on decision 21/CP.7, the SBSTA will develop technical guidance on methodologies for adjustments under Article 5, paragraph 2, of the Kyoto Protocol for estimates of anthropogenic emissions and removals from LULUCF.</p>	<p>Consideration of guidelines and decisions to ensure compatibility with the IPCC good practice guidance on LULUCF, for example:</p> <p>(a) Modifications to the common reporting formats for LULUCF.</p> <p>(b) Modalities for adjustments under Article 5.2 of the Protocol for LULUCF activities.</p>		<p>Parties may wish to consider the work at SBSTA 18, under agenda item 4 (e), and at future sessions.</p>	<p>(a) The SBSTA.</p> <p>(b) The SBSTA.</p>	<p>(a) To be determined.</p> <p>(b) Between COP 9 and COP 10.</p>
<p>3. The SBSTA, at its fifteenth session, requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on harvested wood products for consideration at its nineteenth session.</p>	<p>Consideration of issues relating to harvested wood products.</p>		<p>Preparation and consideration of the technical paper on wood products.</p>	<p>(a) The secretariat.</p> <p>(b) The SBSTA.</p>	<p>A report in 2003 for consideration at SBSTA 19.</p>
<p>4. The SBSTA, at its fifteenth session, invited the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to explore opportunities for examining and improving the quality of data reporting and comparability of GHG emissions from international aviation and maritime transport under the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol, ICAO and IMO.</p>		<p>Compilation of data and information on methods and definitions to ensure that GHG emissions are reported in a consistent and transparent manner.</p>	<p>Methodological aspects relating to this matter will be considered at SBSTA 18 as a separate issue (agenda item 4 (f)).</p>	<p>ICAO / IMO /the secretariat.</p>	<p>Future sessions of the SBSTA.</p>

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
5. Issues relating to guidelines under Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and issues relating to registries under Article 7, paragraph 4. Based on decision 24/CP.8 on technical standards for data exchange between registry systems under the Kyoto Protocol, the secretariat was requested to undertake work relating to the functional and technical specifications of the technical standards. The Chair of the SBSTA was requested to continue consultations with Parties and experts on issues relating to registries.	Possible additional complementary methodological work to apply the adopted guidance in a more precise way based on experience gained.		These topics will be considered at SBSTA 18 under agenda item 4 (b).	Parties and the secretariat.	To be determined.
6. The COP, by its decision 33/CP.7, requested the secretariat to prepare a compilation and synthesis report on third national communications. The compilation and synthesis of national communications from Annex I Parties (FCCC/SBI/2003/7/Add.3) notes that assumptions and methodological choices affect the quality of projections.		Compilation of assumptions, methodologies and data based on information provided in national communications.		The secretariat.	
7. The secretariat prepared a compilation and synthesis of information policies and measures contained in the national communications from Annex I Parties (FCCC/SBI/2003/7/Add.2).	Methodological work on ex ante and ex post self-assessment of policies and measures.				
8. Based on decision 9/CP.3 and the request by the SBSTA at its fifteenth session, the secretariat has developed a web-based prototype information system/clearing house on technology transfer (TT:CLEAR).	Design, testing and dissemination of simple tools for technology assessments.		Based on the assessment and evaluation of TT:CLEAR.	The SBSTA and the EGTT, and other relevant organizations.	Assessment and evaluation for consideration at SBSTA 19.

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
<p>9. The COP, by its decision 9/CP.3, requested the secretariat to accelerate the development of methodologies for assessing adaptation technologies, in particular decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies. Parties, international organizations and others have provided information on adaptation methods and decision tools, which the secretariat has placed on its web site.</p>	<p>Promote testing and evaluation of methods for vulnerability and adaptation assessment to improve the quality of national communications.</p>	<p>Dissemination of information on methodologies to assess impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change.</p> <p>Synthesis of information on the effectiveness and experiences.</p>	<p>Parties, relevant organizations and practitioners could submit their experiences to the secretariat for compilation, including experiences on case studies.</p>	<p>Parties, the secretariat and relevant organizations.</p>	
<p>10. The COP adopted decision 17/CP.8 on improvement of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications by non-Annex I Parties, and decision 3/CP.8 on the work of the CGE.</p>		<p>Compilation of methodological information relevant to the implementation of the guidelines.</p>			
<p>11. Based on the invitation by the COP at its seventh session, the IPCC is currently developing a report on definitions and methodological options for degradation and devegetation activities and aims to complete the work by the second half of 2003.</p>	<p>Work to be determined based on the work by the IPCC.</p>		<p>(a) At SBSTA 18, under agenda item 4 (e), Parties may wish to provide further guidance, as appropriate.</p> <p>(b) The report may be considered at SBSTA 19.</p>		<p>(a) SBSTA 18.</p> <p>(b) SBSTA 19.</p>

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
12. Based on the invitation by COP at its seventh session, the IPCC is preparing, for submission to COP 10, practicable methodologies to factor out direct human-induced changes in carbon stocks and GHG emissions and removals by sinks from changes due to indirect human-induced and natural effects, and effects due to past practices in forests.	Work to be determined based on the report of the IPCC at COP 10.		At SBSTA 18, under agenda item 4 (e), Parties may wish to consider the request and provide further guidance as appropriate.		
13. The SBSTA, at its seventeenth session, agreed that work on the scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil (assessment of contributions to climate change) should be continued by the scientific community. The SBSTA decided to review the progress of work on the scientific and methodological aspects at its twenty-third session.	Work to be determined at future sessions.	Synthesis of modelling results and their implications for future work of the Convention for SBSTA 23.		(a) Scientific community. (b) Identification for further work by the SBSTA.	(a) 2003–2005. (b) SBSTA 23 in 2005 or later.
14. At SBSTA 16, Parties took note of proposed approaches to issues relating to cleaner or less-greenhouse-gas-emitting energy contained in documents FCCC/SBSTA/2002/MISC.3 and Add.1 and 2.			This issue may be further considered at SBSTA 18 under agenda item 9 (a).		
15. In accordance with decision 16/CP.7 and the annex on guidelines for the implementation of Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol, the Article 6 supervisory committee is to be established at COP/MOP 1 to supervise, inter alia, the verification of the emission reduction units generated by Article 6 projects.	Review and revision of reporting guidelines and criteria for baselines and monitoring, and the elaboration of the project design document. Consideration of relevant work by the Executive Board of the CDM, as appropriate.				

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
<p>16. The COP, by its decision 17/CP.7, decided to facilitate the prompt start of the clean development mechanism (CDM) by adopting its modalities and procedures. The COP further elected the Executive Board, which is to supervise the CDM under the authority and guidance of the COP/MOP, and be fully accountable to the COP/MOP. The Executive Board is to report on its activities to each session of the COP/MOP. For the purposes of decision 17/CP.7, and in accordance with that decision, the COP assumes the responsibilities of the COP/MOP until COP/MOP 1.</p>	<p>Methodological work is focused on the approval of new methodologies relating, inter alia, to baselines, monitoring plans and project boundaries and the development, maintenance and public availability of a repository of approved rules, procedures, methodologies and standards. The Executive Board is also to identify modalities for seeking collaboration with the SBSTA on methodological and scientific issues. It is envisaged that the Executive Board will continue to carry out the activities outlined in document FCCC/SBSTA/2002/INF.12, (page 22), in accordance with decision 17/CP.7 and its annex on modalities and procedures.</p>				

Table B. Initial proposals by Parties on possible new elements

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future methodological work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
	1. Work and systems to test the transaction log and registry systems. Development of a database for accounting of emissions and assigned amounts, and a standard electronic format for the "true-period" format.	Exchange of information on the implementation of national systems including QA/QC procedures and plans.	Invite the secretariat to prepare a paper based on submissions by Parties.		
	2. Improvement of reporting guidelines and formats on projections by, for example, adding more specific lists of parameters to be reported, with the aim of improving reporting guidelines and formats, and enhancing comparability and transparency.	Exchange of information on projections (including on methods and models) among Parties.	(a) Information sharing. (b) A workshop.		
	3. Further work on sensitivity analysis and the robustness of GHG projections.				
	4. Development of methodologies for elaboration of projections for non-Annex I Parties and for reporting in national communications.				
	5. Methodologies for developing planning and decision-making tools to assist Parties to assess and implement mitigation strategies.				
	6. Methodologies to enhance transparency in reporting on policies and measures in the national communications of Annex I Parties.				

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future methodological work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
	7. Methodologies for Annex I Parties on implementing win/win policies and measures to reduce emissions and minimize adverse impacts on developing country Parties.			The SBSTA.	
	8. Methodologies for assessing the impacts on developing countries of policies already implemented by Annex I Parties. Expand the coverage of current models with a view to using them as part of a portfolio of tools for decision-making.			The SBSTA in collaboration with international organizations, e.g. OPEC.	
		9. Exchange of experiences from clean development mechanism projects that may contribute to the development of policies and measures for non-Annex I Parties.			
		10. Exchange of information on and experiences between Annex I and non-Annex I Parties on good practices in emission avoidance.			
	11. Information, methods and tools for socio-economic scenario building.			The secretariat, and competent international organizations.	
	12. Methods and tools for vulnerability and adaptive and mitigative capacity assessment.				

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future methodological work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
	13. Assessment of scientific knowledge on mitigation and adaptation pathways by the IPCC. Methodologies for assessing adaptive, and mitigative capacity and mitigation and adaptation pathways.	(a) The secretariat to continue summarizing information reported by Parties in their national communications on mitigation and adaptation technologies.	(b) The IPCC to maintain its focus on mitigation and adaptation pathways in assessments reports.	(a) The secretariat, Parties and the SBSTA. (b) The IPCC.	
	14. Methodologies for assessing mitigation technologies including analysis of socio-economic costs and benefits and ancillary benefits and social acceptability.				
15. The IPCC is preparing a report on CO ₂ capture and storage, and aims to complete the work by 2005.	Identification of methodological work after the completion of the IPCC report and assessment of opportunities for technology transfer.			(a) The IPCC. (b) The SBSTA.	(a) By 2005. (b) Identification of possible needs for further work in 2005 or onwards.
	16. Development of planning and decision-making tools to assist Parties to assess and implement appropriate strategies.				
	17. Development of consistent methodologies for assessment of costs of climate change impacts on the global scale. Assessment of costs and benefits of climate change strategies.	Compilation of cost estimates and underlying assumptions.			

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future methodological work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
	18. Methodologies for assessing terms of trade and socio-economic impacts on individual developing country Parties, including assessment of data sets, development of assumptions, verification of existing data, improvement of models and establishment of baseline data.			The SBSTA in collaboration with international organizations, e.g. UNDP and OPEC.	
	19. Analysis of the role of trade in cleaner or less-greenhouse-gas-emitting energy in meeting the objectives of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.			Competent international organizations.	
20. Information on production and consumption patterns, consistent with WSSD Chapter 3 "Sustainable production and consumption patterns", and the IPCC workshops on climate change and sustainable development.		Production and consumption patterns, and analysis of the GHG implications of traded emission-intensive commodities.	Initially, investigation and summary of relevant data sources, such as databases of OECD, the World Bank, WRI, etc. May later require additional work by relevant bodies and the SBSTA.	The SBSTA and relevant database holders.	2003–2005.

Background information on current and planned activities	Possible elements for development of methodologies	Possible elements relating to collection and dissemination of information	How should future methodological work be done?	Who should undertake the work?	What should be a time frame?
		<p>21. Improvement of availability of data to Parties through development of a data interface.</p>	<p>(a) A stock-taking of existing sources of emissions and socio-economic data. The secretariat to prepare a paper covering sources, accessibility and comparability.</p> <p>(b) Development of options for the development, hosting and management of a data interface to improve access to data by Parties. A paper covering possible host/management arrangements, costs, interface design.</p> <p>(c) Development, hosting and management of a data interface. Initial phase would cover a limited range of data.</p>	<p>(a) The secretariat.</p> <p>(b) The secretariat.</p> <p>(c) To be determined.</p>	<p>(a) In 2003 for consideration at SBSTA 19.</p> <p>(b) For consideration at SBSTA 19.</p> <p>(c) To commence following a decision at COP 9 or COP 10.</p>

Table C: Cross-reference between clusters^a and possible elements

Cluster	Elements under the work based on current and planned activities	Initial proposals by Parties on possible new elements
A. Greenhouse gas inventories	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1
B. Projections of greenhouse gas emissions and removals by sinks	6	2, 3, 4
C. Assessing policies and measures ^b	7	5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
D. Assessing mitigation and adaptation technologies	8	13, 14, 15
E. Assessing impacts, vulnerability and adaptation of climate change	9	16, 17, 18
F. Other areas for methodological work	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	19, 20, 21

^a As described in document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.1.

^b Policies and measures were considered by the SBSTA at its eighteenth session under item 6 of the agenda.

]
