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Agenda item 8

COOPERATION WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) welcomed the information provided by the secretariat in an oral report on activities relevant to cooperation with other international organizations, including information on the fourth meeting of the Joint Liaison Group of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The SBSTA acknowledged the importance of such cooperation and expressed support for efforts to further improve coordination.

Cooperation with other conventions

2. The SBSTA noted with appreciation statements made by the representatives of the UNCCD and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on their activities relevant to cooperation with the UNFCCC. The SBSTA took also note of a written statement by the CBD.

3. The SBSTA agreed to continue its discussion on cooperation with other conventions at its nineteenth session, taking into consideration the outcome of the workshop to be held in Espoo, Finland, from 2 to 4 July 2003, in order to provide additional guidance to the secretariat and to Parties, with the aim of recommending a draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session.

Cooperation with scientific organizations and United Nations bodies

4. The SBSTA noted with appreciation statements made by the representatives of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Conservation Union. The SBSTA welcomed the efforts made by these organizations to contribute to the objective of the Convention.

5. The SBSTA welcomed the IPCC decision to undertake its Fourth Assessment Report. The SBSTA took note of the information provided on preparatory work on the scope, structure and contents of the synthesis report and welcomed the invitation by the IPCC to Parties to provide comments directly to the IPCC on this work prior to IPCC's next plenary in November 2003.

6. The SBSTA also took note of document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.7, containing information on the participation of the secretariat in meetings held in the World Trade Organization (WTO). It encouraged Parties to coordinate issues relevant to the Convention and the WTO at the national level.
