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Item 12 (a) of the provisional agenda

Other matters

Progress reports

**Report on the workshop on national systems for the preparation of
greenhouse gas inventories under Article 4, paragraph 1,
of the Kyoto Protocol**

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The secretariat was requested to organize a workshop on national systems in the first half of 2005. The workshop took place in Bonn, Germany, from 11 to 12 April 2005. The participants shared their experiences of and plans for establishing national systems. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice may wish to take note of the information in this document and, if necessary, provide additional guidance.

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its nineteenth session, invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 30 September 2004, information on national systems under Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol for the preparation of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories. It requested the secretariat, subject to availability of resources, to organize a workshop on this topic in the first half of 2005. It requested the secretariat to compile information on national systems for the preparation of national GHG inventories included in national inventory reports and inventory review reports as an input to this workshop, as part of its consideration of Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol.¹

B. Scope of the note

2. This document contains information about the proceedings and discussions during the workshop organized by the secretariat in response to the above mandate.

II. Information on the workshop

3. The workshop was organized by the secretariat in Bonn, Germany, from 11 to 12 April 2005. Financial support was provided by the Government of Germany through the Bonn Fund. During the workshop the discussions were facilitated by Ms. Maria Paz Cigaran Tolmos (Peru) and Mr. Art Jaques (Canada).

4. The workshop covered the following topics:

- (a) National systems
- (b) Inventory planning
- (c) Data collection
- (d) Quality assurance and quality control
- (e) Inventory management and archiving
- (f) Experiences of and plans for the establishment of national systems.

5. The secretariat prepared a document for the workshop containing a compilation of information on national systems for the preparation of national GHG inventories included in national inventory reports and inventory review reports as requested by the SBSTA. This document was made available to the workshop participants before the workshop through the secretariat web site.²

6. Three Parties, the Netherlands on behalf of the European Community and its member States, Saudi Arabia and the United States of America, submitted information on national systems in accordance with the mandate in paragraph 1 above. These submissions were made available to the workshop participants before the workshop through the secretariat web site and are also contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2005/MISC.8.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2003/15, paragraph 14 (g).

² The agenda, presentations by Parties and other documents for the workshop are available on the secretariat web site <http://unfccc.int/meetings/workshops/other_meetings/items/3398.php>.

7. Sixty-three experts from Parties and five experts from organizations (two from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and three from non-governmental organizations) attended the workshop.
8. The workshop was divided in eight sessions. During the first session the secretariat presented the mandate and objectives of the workshop as well as the “Guidelines for national systems for the estimation of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks under Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol”, as contained in the draft Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol decision recommended for adoption by decision 20/CP.7. In addition, the IPCC presented the elements of the IPCC good practice guidance relevant to national systems.
9. The second to seventh sessions addressed the substantive topics referred to in paragraph 2 above. These sessions started with presentations from Parties, which were followed by discussions. The eighth session was a general discussion and wrap-up of the workshop.
10. During the workshop, 25 Parties made presentations on their institutional arrangements, including national systems, or components of the national systems as referred to in paragraph 2 above. The presentations are available on the secretariat web site.
11. The participants considered the presentations very useful as they covered all elements of national systems. The presentations showed that many Parties have put a lot of effort into developing their national systems, whereas other Parties are still in the beginning of the process. One Party has informed the secretariat that it has finalized its national system and it is formally in place.
12. The presentations showed that Parties have chosen different approaches to establishing their national systems. Some Parties use legal instruments, whereas other Parties use other arrangements, such as memorandums of understanding. This is in line with the guidelines for national systems, which give Parties flexibility to develop and establish their national systems in accordance with their national circumstances.
13. The presentations and the discussions provided useful information and suggestions to Parties on institutional arrangements for preparing national GHG estimates. The participants agreed that the presentations and discussions during the workshop will assist Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) to further develop their national systems. The information will also help Annex I Parties that are Parties to the Kyoto Protocol fulfil their commitments to have national systems in place, in accordance with the guidelines for national systems under Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol.
