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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

**Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
on its thirtieth session,
held in Bonn from 1 to 10 June 2009**

Addendum

Draft decisions forwarded for adoption by the Conference of the Parties

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Draft decision -/CP.15

Systematic climate observations

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 4, paragraph 1(g–h), and Article 5 of the Convention,

Further recalling decisions 8/CP.3, 14/CP.4, 5/CP.5, 11/CP.9, 5/CP.10 and 11/CP.13,

Having considered the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its thirtieth session,

Noting the important role of the Global Climate Observing System in meeting the need for climate observation under the Convention,

1. *Expresses its appreciation:*
 - (a) To the secretariat and sponsoring agencies of the Global Climate Observing System for preparing the report on progress with the *Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC* (hereinafter referred to as the Global Climate Observing System implementation plan);
 - (b) To the secretariat and sponsoring agencies of the Global Terrestrial Observing System for developing a framework for the preparation of guidance materials, standards and reporting guidelines for terrestrial observing systems for climate;
 - (c) To the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites for its coordinated response, on behalf of Parties that support space agencies involved in global observations, to the needs expressed in the Global Climate Observing System implementation plan;
2. *Recognizes* the significant progress made during 2004–2008 in improving the observing systems for climate relevant to the Convention;
3. *Notes* that, despite the progress made, only limited advances have been made in achieving long-term continuity for several in situ observing systems and that there are still large areas, in Africa for example, for which in situ observations and measurements are not available;
4. *Also notes* that not all climate information needs under the Convention are being met;
5. *Urges* Parties to work towards addressing the priorities and gaps identified in the report on progress with the Global Climate Observing System implementation plan, in particular the implementation of the regional action plans that were developed during 2001–2006, and ensuring sustained long-term operation of essential in situ networks, especially for the oceanic and terrestrial domains, including through provision of the necessary resources;
6. *Invites* relevant United Nations agencies and international organizations to do the same;
7. *Encourages* Parties in a position to do so to support activities aimed at sustaining climate observations over the long term in developing countries, especially the least developed countries and small island developing States;
8. *Invites* the Global Climate Observing System secretariat, under the guidance of the Global Climate Observing System Steering Committee, to update, by the thirty-third session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, the Global Climate Observing System

implementation plan, taking into account emerging needs in climate observation, in particular those relating to adaptation activities;

9. *Encourages* the secretariat and the sponsoring agencies of the Global Terrestrial Observing System to implement the framework for the preparation of guidance materials, standards and reporting guidelines for terrestrial observing systems for climate, as a joint terrestrial framework mechanism between relevant agencies of the United Nations and the International Organization for Standardization;

10. *Encourages* the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites to continue coordinating and supporting the implementation of the satellite component of the Global Climate Observing System;

11. *Urges* Parties that support space agencies involved in global observations to enable these agencies to continue to implement, in a coordinated manner through the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites, the actions identified in the updated report of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites,¹ in order to meet the relevant needs of the Convention, in particular by ensuring long-term continuity of observations and data availability.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/MISC.11.

Draft decision -/CP.15

Updated training programme for greenhouse gas inventory review experts for the technical review of greenhouse gas inventories from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 4, 7 and 12 of the Convention,

Further recalling decisions 19/CP.8 and 12/CP.9,

Having considered the relevant recommendations of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice,

Recognizing the importance of the training programme for greenhouse gas inventory review experts for the technical review of greenhouse gas inventories from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention,

1. *Requests* the secretariat to develop and implement the updated training programme for greenhouse gas inventory review experts for the technical review of greenhouse gas inventories from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, as outlined in the annex, including the examination of experts, and to give priority to organizing an annual seminar for the basic course;
2. *Encourages* Parties included in Annex I to the Convention in a position to do so to provide financial support for enhancing the training programme;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to include, in its annual report on inventory review activities to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, information on the training programme, in particular information on examination procedures and the selection of trainees and instructors, in order for Parties to assess the effectiveness of the programme.

ANNEX

Updated training programme for greenhouse gas inventory review experts for the technical review of greenhouse gas inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

A. Details of the training programme

1. The courses are intended to train greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory review experts for the technical review of GHG inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. All training courses will be available online. For trainees without easy access to the Internet, courses will be distributed through electronic means; for courses facilitated by an instructor, trainees will communicate with the instructor by electronic means. At the request of a Party, the courses will also be made available to others interested in the review process, provided that this does not require additional resources. All courses, without instructor, will be available to trainees all year round.
2. A closing seminar for the basic course of the training programme will be offered annually for around 30 participants (new GHG inventory review experts).
3. Additional regional training seminars for new GHG inventory review experts and a refresher seminar for experienced GHG inventory review experts may be offered annually, depending on the availability of resources. The refresher seminars may be offered in conjunction with meetings of lead reviewers to complete the training for lead reviewers and other experienced GHG inventory review experts.
4. All training courses will include an examination. Examination procedures will be standardized, objective and transparent.
5. For courses which have a closing seminar, the examination will generally take place during the seminar. In exceptional circumstances, other arrangements for examinations will be made, provided that the examinations take place under the supervision of the secretariat and that this does not require additional resources. For other courses, the examination will take place online.
6. New GHG inventory review experts who successfully complete the relevant requirements of the training programme will be invited to participate in a centralized or in-country review, working alongside experienced GHG inventory review experts.
7. Experts who do not pass an examination for a course at the first attempt may retake the examination once only, provided that the expert has fulfilled all of the tasks assigned during the course in a timely manner and that the retake does not require the secretariat to incur additional costs.
8. Experts with relevant inventory expertise will be invited to act as instructors for courses of the training programme, ensuring that their collective skills cover the subjects addressed in each course. They will provide advice and support by e-mail or other electronic means. The secretariat will seek to achieve a geographical balance among the instructors participating in the training programme.
9. When selecting new GHG inventory review experts for courses facilitated by instructors, the secretariat will give priority to national GHG inventory review experts, nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts, from Parties that have not participated in review activities before.

B. Courses of the training programme

1. Basic course for the review of greenhouse gas inventories of Annex I Parties

Description: This course covers UNFCCC review guidelines and procedures and general Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) inventory guidance (the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, the IPCC good practice guidance and the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF)¹ as well as specific aspects of the review of the IPCC sectors energy, fugitive emissions, industrial processes, agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry, and waste. This course also provides guidance on making review reports substantive, consistent among review teams and reader-friendly

Preparation: 2009

Implementation: 2009–2014

Target audience: New GHG inventory review experts

Type of course: E-learning, facilitated by an instructor, with a closing seminar

Examination requirements and format: New GHG inventory review experts must pass the examination before participating in expert review teams. In-person examination.

2. Review of complex models and higher tier methods

Description: This course provides general guidance and procedures, as well as specific aspects for the review of emission estimates performed using complex models and higher tier methods (tier 3 methods)

Preparation: 2010

Implementation: 2011–2014

Target audience: Lead reviewers and GHG inventory review experts who participate in reviews, including new GHG inventory review experts

Type of course: E-learning, without instructor

Examination requirements and format: Optional. Self-check electronic examination.

3. Improving communication and facilitating consensus in expert review teams

Description: This course provides tools to improve the work of expert review teams and facilitate teamwork

Preparation: 2003

Implementation: 2009–2014

Target audience: New GHG inventory review experts and experienced GHG inventory review experts as a refresher course

Type of course: E-learning, without instructor

Examination requirements and format: Optional. Self-check electronic examination.

C. Refresher seminar for experienced greenhouse gas inventory review experts

Description: This annual seminar provides general guidance on specific and complex aspects of the review of emission estimates. It enables experienced GHG inventory review experts to strengthen and refresh their knowledge, both for cross-cutting aspects and for sector-specific issues

Implementation: 2011–2014, subject to the availability of resources

Target audience: Lead reviewers and experienced GHG inventory review experts who participate in reviews.

¹ In full: *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry.*