



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Forty-fifth session

Marrakech, 7–14 November 2016

Agenda item 8(b)

Matters relating to science and review

Advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), in response to the mandate from the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its twenty-first session,¹ considered advice on how the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) can inform the global stocktake of the implementation of the Paris Agreement pursuant to its Article 14.
2. The SBSTA welcomed the views submitted by Parties on advice on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake.²
3. The SBSTA acknowledged that the products of the IPCC assessment cycles will be key inputs to the global stocktake and will provide the best available scientific knowledge that is policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive, providing an integrated scientific, technical and socioeconomic perspective.
4. The SBSTA noted that the forthcoming products of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle³ will be key inputs to the first global stocktake in 2023. It recognized that the products of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle will become available at different stages during the period 2018–2022.⁴ It noted that the timing of the sixth IPCC assessment cycle will therefore be aligned with the first global stocktake.

¹ Decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 100.

² Available at <<http://unfccc.int/5900>>.

³ See IPCC decisions IPCC/XLIII-6, IPCC/XLIII-7 and IPCC/XLIII-8, available at <https://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session43/p43_decisions.pdf>.

⁴ See paragraph 19 of the “Summary report on the SBSTA–IPCC special event on advice on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake” available at <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/specialevent_summaryreport_online.pdf>.



5. The SBSTA welcomed the decision⁵ of the IPCC to take into account the outcomes of COP 21 when determining its programme of work and products for the sixth assessment cycle. It encouraged the IPCC to pay particular attention to the first global stocktake when scoping its sixth assessment report, taking into account that the global stocktake will assess collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering mitigation, adaptation and the means of implementation and support, in the light of equity and the best available science.

6. The SBSTA noted the IPCC's invitation to governments⁶ to identify their priority information needs to help inform the scoping of the sixth assessment report and it encouraged participation in the process.

7. The SBSTA noted the need for sufficient time to ensure transparent and reliable scientific assessment cycles, and welcomed the IPCC's decision⁷ to request its secretariat to "prepare proposals for aligning the work of the IPCC during its Seventh Assessment Report with the needs of the global stocktake foreseen under the Paris Agreement and to submit these proposals for consideration at a Plenary session of the IPCC no later than 2018". The SBSTA encouraged the IPCC to continue this consideration, with a view to ensuring that the global stocktake is always informed in a timely manner by the best available science.

8. The SBSTA invited the IPCC to consider any outcome, including possible scientific information gaps, from the global stocktake that the IPCC views as relevant to inform its future assessments.

9. The SBSTA, as requested by the COP, provided the following advice, consistent with its mandate in decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 100, on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake referred to in Article 14 of the Paris Agreement, recognizing that identification of the sources of input for the global stocktake will be undertaken by the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement in accordance with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 99:

(a) Lessons can be learned from past experience;⁸

(b) Dialogue between IPCC experts and Parties on the findings of the IPCC products, enabling a focused scientific and technical exchange of information in an open and transparent manner, could be utilized;

(c) Convening special events, similar to the SBSTA–IPCC special event organized by the SBSTA and held on 18 May 2016, could be of value;

(d) Views emerging from the rich exchange of information between the IPCC and Parties at the SBSTA–IPCC special event referred to in paragraph 9(c) above⁹ could be further considered;

(e) Inputs from the IPCC should be considered in an effective and balanced manner, as part of the overall input to the global stocktake;

⁵ IPCC decision IPCC/XLIII-5, available at

<https://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session43/p43_decisions.pdf>.

⁶ See letter 5229-16/IPCC/AR6 dated 21 September 2016, available at

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/pdf/governments-relevant_topics_AR6.pdf>.

⁷ IPCC decision IPCC/XLIII-7, paragraph 8, available at

<https://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session43/p43_decisions.pdf>.

⁸ In particular the activities relating to the 2013–2015 review, taking into account successes and shortcomings.

⁹ See the "Summary report on the SBSTA–IPCC special event on advice on how the assessments of the IPCC can inform the global stocktake" available at

<http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/specialevent_summaryreport_online.pdf>.

(f) The SBSTA-IPCC Joint Working Group could be used to enhance communication and coordination¹⁰ between the SBSTA and the IPCC in the context of the global stocktake.

¹⁰ In accordance with document FCCC/SBSTA/1995/3, paragraph 24(e), and FCCC/SBSTA/1997/4, paragraph 26(m).