



SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

First session

Geneva, 28-30 August 1995

Agenda items 2 and 3

ITEM 2: ELABORATION AND SCHEDULING OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK,
1996-1997

ITEM 3: OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM DECISIONS OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Draft conclusions proposed by the Officers

I. ELABORATION AND SCHEDULING OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK,
1996-1997

(a) Scientific assessments

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will discuss the Second Assessment Report at its December session. It was recognized that this will include important information for the Convention, and would require priority attention at the second session to enable the SBSTA to provide relevant advice to the Ad hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (AGBM) as requested (para. 6 of the conclusions of the AGBM). The secretariat was also requested to prepare a document identifying issues and inputs for the SBSTA's considerations, including those relevant for the AGBM process.

(b) Communications from Annex I Parties

2. The SBSTA endorsed the division of labour with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) on the matter, as suggested by the secretariat in its document FCCC/SB/1995/INF.1.

3. The SBSTA agreed that the consideration of in-depth reviews would be a standing item on its agenda. A number of in-depth review reports are expected for the next session.
 4. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to present first elements of the synthesis report of in-depth reviews for consideration at its second session with a view to finalization of the report at a later session for transmission to the Conference of the Parties at its second session (COP 2). Relevant conclusions will be forwarded to the AGBM in accordance with its request.
 5. The SBSTA, acknowledging the importance of improved comparability of communications, decided to return to the further development of guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Annex I Parties at its second and later sessions, on the basis of the report on the guidelines requested from the secretariat by the first session of the Conference of the Parties (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 3/CP.1).
 6. On the issues related to methodology to be addressed under this item of the work programme, the SBSTA saw the usefulness of drawing upon the work of competent international bodies, such as the IPCC and the OECD/IEA.
- (c) First communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
7. Requests the secretariat:
 - (a) To prepare, for consideration by the SBSTA at its second session, recommendations on guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, taking into account the views expressed by the Parties;
 - (b) To facilitate the exchange and sharing of information among Parties for the preparation of initial communications, including forums in which discussions and technical and common aspects of such communications could be undertaken, and to seek extrabudgetary funds for this purpose.
 - (d) Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase
8. The SBSTA requests the secretariat to continue its compilation of contributions by Parties concerning the reporting framework for activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase in a miscellaneous document which will be considered at the second session of the SBSTA.
 9. The SBSTA requests the secretariat to prepare proposals on the reporting framework, as an input to the third session of the SBSTA, when the SBSTA intends to establish the reporting framework. The secretariat is requested to convene a workshop in that regard.

10. Subsequently, the secretariat should continue work on methodological issues and on possible improvements to the reporting framework.
11. The secretariat should seek extrabudgetary resources for the workshop.
- (e) Transfer of technology
12. The SBSTA, recalling the decisions of the COP, endorsed the division of labour with the SBI on this item, as suggested by the secretariat in its documentation, and will consider the item at its future sessions.
- (f) Allocation and control of international bunker fuels
13. The SBSTA requested the Intergovernmental Technical Advisory Panel on Methodologies to provide an options paper for consideration at a future session.
- (g) Possible contributions to the Berlin Mandate process
14. The SBSTA took note of the requests for input from the AGBM, both in the short and longer term, and included these under the relevant agenda items as priority items.
- (h) Cooperation with competent international bodies, including the IPCC

(See FCCC/SBSTA/1995/L.1)
- (i) Proposals on longer term arrangements and organizational arrangements
15. The SBSTA decided that this agenda item will be taken up at the next session.
- (j) Workshop on non-governmental inputs
16. SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a workshop on NGO inputs, as foreseen in the work programme of the SBSTA, in cooperation with interested Parties and organisations. Such workshop could possibly be held in the weekend preceding the next meeting of the SBSTA. Adequate participation, inter alia, from NGOs from developing countries, would have to be promoted. The conclusions of the workshop would have to be made available to the SBSTA for consideration. The workshop will have to be funded from extrabudgetary resources; the SBSTA, in this context, noted with appreciation the support offered by two Parties.

(k) Report on the work of the SBSTA to COP 2

17. The SBSTA decided that this agenda item will be taken up at the next session.

(l) Establishment of Intergovernmental Technical Advisory Panels

(See separate papers).

II. OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

(a) Communications from Annex I Parties: Progress report on in-depth reviews

18. The SBSTA took note of the progress report, FCCC/SB/1995/1, provided by the secretariat. It noted with satisfaction that experts from a broad range of Parties have been involved in the review process so far, including at least a developing Party in each review team. The SBSTA noted with concern, however, that only 29 countries to date have nominated experts for the in-depth reviews, and that the time schedule for these reviews as set by the COP could not be fully met owing to resource limitations and/or scheduling problems. It urged Parties to nominate additional experts to meet the demands of the in-depth review process.

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