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Agenda item 4

Development and transfer of technologies

**Draft conclusions proposed by the co-chairs of the contact group
on agenda item 4**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted the reports prepared by the secretariat on the outcome of the senior-level round-table discussion on enabling environments for technology transfer held at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (FCCC/SBSTA/2004/2), and on the results of the survey on the effectiveness of the use of the UNFCCC technology information clearing house (TT:CLEAR) (FCCC/SBSTA/2004/INF.8 and Add.1).
2. The SBSTA welcomed the report by the Chair of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) on the outcome of the fifth meeting of the EGTT held on 13 and 14 June 2004 in Bonn, Germany. It further noted the progress on the implementation of the programme of work of the EGTT for 2004, in particular the recommendations of the EGTT on various activities.
3. The SBSTA also noted the report of the EGTT indicating that business and industry non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have not yet organized sector-specific workshops and other activities relevant to enabling environments for the development and transfer of technologies, as they were encouraged to do by the SBSTA at its eighteenth session. In this regard, the SBSTA reaffirmed its encouragement to business and industry NGOs and relevant international organizations to organize, in consultation with the EGTT and the secretariat, the above-mentioned sector-specific workshops, and to report on progress to the SBSTA at its twenty-first session.
4. The SBSTA noted the results of the TT:CLEAR survey, which provided useful feedback and recommendations for improving the system, including enhancing the use of and access to the system by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties).

5. The SBSTA encouraged Parties and relevant international and regional organizations to strengthen the role of national climate change focal points, and national and regional information centres, on dissemination of technology information, including on the promotion of the use of TT:CLEAR. It further urged Parties undertaking their technology needs assessments to make the results of their studies available to the secretariat for dissemination via TT:CLEAR.
6. The SBSTA endorsed the recommendation of the EGTT that the workshop on innovative options for financing the development and transfer of technologies should have a practical focus, utilizing to the greatest extent possible actual innovative financing situations and experiences. The workshop should also be built around a series of case studies encompassing the experience of a range of stakeholders and stages of technology and market development, including assessments of the ability of various innovative options for financing arrangements to meet the needs identified during technology needs assessments.
7. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the offer by the Government of Canada to host the above-mentioned workshop in September 2004. It also expressed its appreciation to the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI) for its pledge to provide support for the organization of the workshop. It further invited Parties in a position to do so to provide financial support to the secretariat for the organization of the workshop.
8. The SBSTA urged Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) and relevant organizations, in a position to do so, to provide technical support to developing country Parties undertaking their technology needs assessments.
9. The SBSTA invited the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), other relevant organizations and the CTI in a position to do so, to hold additional regional workshops to assist developing country Parties to finalize their technology needs assessment reports. It further encouraged these organizations to assist, as appropriate, developing country Parties in the development of national/regional databases on technology needs assessment results and to organize these results in a form suitable for posting on international databases such as TT:CLEAR.
10. The SBSTA urged Parties to give consideration to taking a decision at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties reflecting the progress made and the next steps to further advance the framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Convention, covered under decision 4/CP.7.
11. The SBSTA invited UNDP, in cooperation with UNEP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF):
 - (a) To collect the reports of the technology needs assessments and prepare an analysis of the technology needs identified by developing countries in these reports and of the lessons learned from the process and analysis of the results, and to report its findings to the EGTT at its sixth meeting;
 - (b) To make available to Parties at SBSTA 21 the most recent version of the handbook for conducting technology needs assessments for climate change and, to the extent possible, translate the handbook into other official languages of the United Nations;
 - (c) To analyse options to further provide technical support to Parties working on completing their initial technology needs assessments or on updating their needs assessments.

12. The SBSTA requested the EGTT:
- (a) To consider, at its sixth meeting, the outcomes of the workshop on innovative options for financing the development and transfer of technologies and the workshop report prepared by the secretariat with possible recommendations to the SBSTA for consideration at its twenty-first session;
 - (b) To explore possible ways to enhance synergy with other global conventions and processes where technology transfer and capacity-building for technology transfer are considered, in particular with the Convention on Biological Diversity on its programme of work and its expert group on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the Montreal Protocol, and to consider the outcomes of the work of the Joint Liaison Group, to encourage complementarity and avoid duplication of efforts, and to report on the progress to the SBSTA at its twenty-second session.
 - (c) To consider for possible inclusion in its programme of work for 2005:
 - (i) Activities relating to the identification of possible joint research programmes between Annex I Parties and non-Annex I Parties for the development of environmentally sound technologies
 - (ii) Ways to enhance access to scholarships and fellowships to non-Annex I Parties to build capacity for the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies.
13. The SBSTA requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources:
- (a) To organize a special meeting of the EGTT in conjunction with the workshop on innovative options for financing the development and transfer of technologies referred to in paragraph 6 above;
 - (b) To organize in early 2005 a seminar on the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies for adaptation to climate change in order to discuss case studies encompassing short-, medium- and long-term examples of their application, taking into consideration the terms of reference to be prepared by the EGTT at its sixth meeting, and to report on the findings of this seminar to the SBSTA at its twenty-second session;
 - (c) To prepare a technical paper on the applications of environmentally sound technologies for adaptation to climate change, based on the outcomes of the above-mentioned seminar and on the terms of reference to be prepared by the EGTT at its seventh meeting. This paper will be made available for consideration by the SBSTA at its twenty-third session;
 - (d) To continue its work on maintaining and improving TT:CLEAR, taking into account the report on the survey on the effectiveness of the use of the system and the recommendation of the EGTT at its fifth meeting:
 - (i) To more narrowly define what topic areas it can best focus upon; improve user-friendliness of the site; focus on its clearing house role; better define the target audiences and tailor information to meet their needs; focus on data organization and management; and build a simple and effective search engine for users;

- (ii) To enhance outreach efforts to increase the use of the system by users from non-Annex I Parties, including wider distribution of the stand-alone version of TT:CLEAR on CD-ROM, distribution of information to regional networks and specialized web sites, and distribution of technology news;
 - (iii) To enhance networking between national and regional centres working on the dissemination of technology information, and encourage the use of TT:CLEAR;
 - (iv) To translate portions of the site into other official languages of the United Nations;
 - (v) To provide information on financial and technical assistance for the development and transfer of technologies.
- (e) To clearly identify, taking into account the points in paragraph 13 (d) above, budgetary needs for maintaining and further developing TT:CLEAR, and report to the SBSTA at its twenty-first session.

14. The SBSTA noted that, in accordance with decision 16/CP.9, the Executive Secretary provided Parties with an indication of the administrative and budgetary implications of these conclusions. The SBSTA noted that no financial provision has been made in the core budget 2004–2005 to hold the special meeting of the EGTT mentioned in paragraph 13 (a) above or the seminar mentioned in paragraph 13 (b) above, and that the conclusions can only be implemented subject to the availability of supplementary funds.

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