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**SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

**Thirty-second session**

**Bonn, 31 May to 9 June 2010**

**Agenda item 6**

**Research and systematic observation**

## **Research and systematic observation**

### **Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of the views submitted by Parties on topics for discussion at the research dialogue meeting convened during the thirty-second session of the SBSTA<sup>1</sup> and expressed its appreciation to Parties for providing, during that dialogue meeting, their views on research needs and priorities, in particular those related to reducing uncertainties and gaps in scientific knowledge relevant to the needs of the Convention.
2. The SBSTA welcomed the updated information on developments in research activities and emerging scientific findings relevant to the needs of the Convention provided by the regional and international climate change research programmes and organizations (hereinafter referred to as research programmes and organizations), as well as the information provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on its activities, in particular on the process leading to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and its Synthesis Report.<sup>2</sup>
3. The SBSTA recalled the valuable role that the research dialogue is playing in informing deliberations within the UNFCCC process, and agreed that it should be continued at SBSTA 34 and beyond. It encouraged research programmes and organizations to continue to provide, for consideration under the research dialogue in the future, information on developments in research activities outlined in document FCCC/SBSTA/2007/4, paragraph 47 (a–f), taking into account views expressed by Parties,

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<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2010/MISC.4.

<sup>2</sup> This information was provided in submissions contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2010/MISC.6, as well as in the presentations given during the research dialogue meeting. The IPCC and the following research programmes and organizations were represented at the meeting: the Earth System Science Partnership, the World Climate Research Programme, the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, START (Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training), the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research and the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union and associated countries. Presentations and further information are available at <<http://unfccc.int/items/5609.php>>.

priorities emerging within the UNFCCC process and activities undertaken in support of the IPCC towards the preparation of the AR5.

4. The SBSTA noted the need to further enhance interaction between the science and policy communities by strengthening the research dialogue. Possible ways to enhance the effectiveness of the dialogue in the future may include:

- (a) Better identification and communication of research themes and topics of interest to policymakers;
- (b) Greater opportunities for developing countries to present research results and related capacity-building activities;
- (c) Further activities to share information;
- (d) Identification of additional ways to communicate research outcomes and findings to Parties.

5. In this regard, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to:

- (a) Organize a workshop, in conjunction with its thirty-fourth session, subject to the availability of resources and under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, to allow further in-depth consideration to be given to issues addressed in the research dialogue and to prepare a report on the workshop to be made available for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-fourth session;
- (b) Consider ways to make available on its website information from the research programmes and organizations.

6. The SBSTA invited Parties to provide to the secretariat, by 20 September 2010, their views on the issues referred to in paragraphs 4 (a–d) and 5 (a–b) above, and requested the secretariat to make these available as a miscellaneous document by the thirty-third session of the SBSTA. It further requested the secretariat to provide information to Parties prior to SBSTA 34 on the themes to be presented at the research dialogue meeting and at the workshop referred to in paragraph 5 (a) above.

7. The SBSTA invited research programmes and organizations to provide updated information on emerging scientific findings and research outcomes at SBSTA 33.

8. The SBSTA noted the challenges of communicating research results, including indication of level of confidence and uncertainty, effectively to end-users and to a wider audience, including the media and the public. In this regard, the SBSTA welcomed the progress made in the development of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) under the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and its partner organizations. It invited the WMO to report, under the research dialogue, on progress made on the development of the GFCS.

9. The SBSTA recognized the need to engage observation programmes in the research dialogue.

10. The SBSTA encouraged the enhancement of existing efforts by Parties and research programmes and organizations to build research capacity in developing countries, including by strengthening research at regional climate centres.