



## Framework Convention on Climate Change

Distr.: Limited  
3 December 2011

Original: English

---

### Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-fifth session

Durban, 28 November to 3 December 2011

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) considered the views submitted by Parties on the research dialogue, including ongoing activities, associated modalities and possible ways to enhance the dialogue.<sup>1</sup>
2. In the light of the progress made in the implementation of decision 9/CP.11, and the success of the activities undertaken under the SBSTA research dialogue on developments in research activities relevant to the needs of the Convention, including the related workshop held in conjunction with the thirty-fourth session of the SBSTA, the SBSTA agreed that the research dialogue should continue, on a regular basis, at SBSTA 36 and beyond.
3. The SBSTA encouraged Parties, in particular developing country Parties, and invited regional and international research programmes and organizations active in climate change research to utilize the research dialogue as a forum for:
  - (a) Discussing needs for climate change research and research-related capacity-building, particularly those of developing countries, to support the work of the Convention;
  - (b) Conveying research findings and lessons learned from activities undertaken by regional and international research programmes and organizations of relevance to the Convention.
4. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit, prior to a SBSTA session during which a research dialogue would be held, their views on specific themes to be addressed at the research dialogue meeting.<sup>2</sup> In this regard, the SBSTA invited Parties to submit, by 5 March 2012, their views for the upcoming research dialogue to be held in conjunction with the thirty-sixth session of the SBSTA.
5. The SBSTA invited relevant regional and international research programmes and organizations active in climate change research to provide, in the context of the research

---

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2011/MISC.8 and Add.1.

<sup>2</sup> In line with the timeline for submissions from Parties for inclusion into a miscellaneous document of that respective session.

dialogue, submissions with information on developments in their research activities relevant to the Convention, including with respect to the long-term global goal referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 4, as appropriate.

6. The SBSTA recalled its conclusions at its thirty-fourth session, at which the SBSTA requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to support the research dialogue, including organizing further workshops, as appropriate, in periodic consultation with the relevant research programmes and organizations and as agreed by the SBSTA. The objective of such workshops is to facilitate the in-depth consideration of issues considered under the research dialogue, with a view to providing information in support of the UNFCCC process.

7. The SBSTA requested the secretariat, taking into consideration information from relevant research programmes and organizations and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to further enhance the availability and visibility of scientific information relevant to the Convention on the UNFCCC website, including through webcasts of the proceedings of any workshops under the research dialogue.

8. The SBSTA invited Parties and regional and international research programmes and organizations active in climate change research, including marine research, to provide information on the technical and scientific aspects of emissions by sources, removals by sinks, and reservoirs of all greenhouse gases, including emissions and removals from coastal and marine ecosystems such as mangroves, tidal salt marshes, wetlands and seagrass meadows, with a view to identifying and quantifying the impact of human activities. This information would be considered as a theme for the next research dialogue, also taking into account the submissions received in accordance with paragraph 4 above. At its thirty-sixth session, the SBSTA may consider the need for a workshop to give in-depth consideration to the themes considered in the research dialogue. The SBSTA noted the views of Parties regarding the importance of other ecosystems with high-carbon reservoirs, in particular terrestrial ecosystems, for example steppe, tundra and peatlands.

9. The SBSTA took note of the information provided by the secretariat of the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS)<sup>3</sup> and agreed to consider this information, in conjunction with any updates received from GTOS on this matter, as well as matters related to the Global Climate Observing System, at its thirty-sixth session when considering matters related to systematic observation, in line with the conclusions of the SBSTA at its thirty-fourth session.<sup>4</sup>

10. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the statement provided by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) informing on the progress towards the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The SBSTA recognized that the GFCS is an important initiative to underpin science-based adaptation and to support countries in meeting the challenges of climate variability and change.

11. The SBSTA invited WMO to provide, at the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA, information on the outcome of the Extraordinary Session of the WMO Congress in October 2012 with respect to GFCS implementation. The SBSTA also invited WMO to provide information, when appropriate, on the progress in the implementation of the GFCS at future sessions in order to inform the work under the Convention.

12. The SBSTA welcomed the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change *Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation*, noting the importance of the underlying research and systematic observations enabling the production of this report.

---

<sup>3</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2011/MISC.14.

<sup>4</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2011/2, paragraph 56.

13. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of implementing the provisions contained in these conclusions, as provided by the secretariat. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

14. The SBSTA decided to recommend a draft decision on the research dialogue for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session (for the text of the decision, see FCCC/SBSTA/2011/27/Add.1).

---