



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-ninth session

Warsaw, 11–16 November 2013

Agenda item 11(a)

Methodological issues under the Convention

Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) continued its discussion on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties (hereinafter referred to as the review guidelines) under the work programme on the revision of the review guidelines agreed upon at SBSTA 37 (hereinafter referred to as the work programme).¹
2. The SBSTA considered the views submitted by Parties in response to the invitation made by SBSTA 38² in accordance with the work programme, and the synthesis report³ on the views submitted by Parties prepared by the secretariat.
3. It welcomed the report⁴ on the first technical workshop on the development of the review guidelines for biennial reports and national communications, held from 7 to 9 October 2013 in Bonn, Germany, which was organized by the secretariat under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA.
4. The SBSTA recommended a draft decision on the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its nineteenth session (for the text of the decision, see FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.32/Add.1).

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/5, annex I.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2013/3, paragraph 96.

³ FCCC/SBSTA/2013/INF.5.

⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2013/INF.14.

5. The SBSTA welcomed the presentation made by the secretariat on the development of the training materials and procedures as requested by SBSTA 38⁵ and took note of the training materials. It recognized the importance of implementing the training of review experts before the review of the next submitted national communications and the submission of the first biennial reports in the first half of 2014. It requested the secretariat to make the materials available by electronic means for the review experts participating in the reviews in 2014 and to develop a formal training programme for consideration at SBSTA 40 (June 2014).
6. The SBSTA invited Parties, in accordance with the work programme, to submit to the secretariat, by 19 February 2014, detailed views on the structure, outline, key elements, including the purpose and scope of the review, timing and reporting, and content of the review guidelines for greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories for Annex I Parties. It requested the secretariat to prepare, by 26 March 2014, a synthesis report on those views and a draft of the revised review guidelines for GHG inventories based on those submissions as inputs to the discussion at the second technical workshop⁶ (to be held in April 2014) under the work programme.
7. The SBSTA agreed that, in their consideration of the revision of the review guidelines for GHG inventories for Annex I Parties, Parties should take into account experience with the review of information submitted by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention and the need to have a cost-effective, efficient and practical review process that does not impose an excessive burden on Parties, experts or the secretariat.
8. The SBSTA also agreed that the work programme should be adjusted, and requested the secretariat to organize an additional technical workshop in the second half of 2014.
9. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat as referred to in paragraphs 5, 6 and 8 above.
10. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2013/3, paragraph 97.

⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/5, annex I.