



Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Forty-sixth session

Bonn, 8–18 May 2017

Agenda item 15

Arrangements for intergovernmental meetings

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) took note of document FCCC/SBI/2017/5.
2. The SBI took note with appreciation of the preparations by the secretariat and the Governments of Fiji and Germany for ensuring the success of the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in November 2017 in Bonn, Germany, the seat of the secretariat, and presided over by the Government of Fiji. The SBI emphasized the importance of following the principles of openness, transparency and inclusiveness, and adhering to established procedures on decision-making in making the arrangements for the conference.
3. The SBI noted that significant progress needs to be made at the conference on the Paris Agreement work programme as well as in the further implementation of other mandates and initiatives aimed at achieving the ultimate objective of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol.
4. The SBI requested the secretariat to take note of the views expressed by Parties on the possible elements of the provisional agendas for the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The SBI noted that the agenda for the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement was adopted at the first part of its first session. The SBI also noted decisions 1/CMA.1, paragraph 10, and 1/CP.22, paragraph 11.
5. The SBI noted the desire of Parties to maximize the time available to the three subsidiary bodies to advance their work during COP 23 to facilitate the timely conclusion of the work on the Paris Agreement work programme in 2018.
6. In this regard, the SBI recommended that the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, the SBI and the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement conclude their work by noon on Wednesday, 15 November, in order that, inter alia, draft



texts can be made available in all six official United Nations languages for adoption, and that the high-level segment commence in the afternoon of 15 November. The SBI therefore invited the Presidency and incoming Presidency, in consultation with the secretariat and the COP Bureau, to finalize the details of the arrangements for COP 23, including arrangements for the high-level segment.

7. The SBI agreed to continue to have joint meetings of the governing bodies during the high-level segment, and invited the secretariat to make arrangements for the delivery of concise national statements by ministers and other heads of delegation, with a recommended time limit of three minutes, and statements by representatives of intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), with a recommended time limit of two minutes.

8. The SBI emphasized the importance of enhancing action on climate change and of the mandated high-level event on enhancing climate action to be convened at COP 23.

9. The SBI expressed its appreciation to the Government of Poland for offering to host COP 24 in December 2018.

10. The SBI reiterated its appreciation for the successful collaboration between the current Presidency and the incoming Presidency in preparation for COP 23.

11. The SBI noted that, in keeping with the principle of rotation among regional groups, the President of COP 25 would come from the Latin American and Caribbean States and the President of COP 26 would come from the Western European and other States. The SBI invited Parties to come forward with offers to host COP 25 and COP 26.

12. The SBI recommended the following dates for the sessional periods in 2022, for consideration at COP 23:

- (a) First sessional period: Monday, 6 June, to Thursday, 16 June;
- (b) Second sessional period: Monday, 7 November, to Friday, 18 November.

13. The SBI welcomed the efforts of the presiding officers of the subsidiary bodies to ensure the coordination, coherence, management and due process of related issues being considered, within mandated timelines, by the subsidiary bodies. In this regard, the SBI recommended that regular stocktaking meetings be convened to assess progress and invited the secretariat to continue to regularly update the progress tracker for the work programme resulting from the relevant requests contained in decision 1/CP.21.

14. The SBI encouraged the presiding officers, in consultation with the secretariat, to consider organizing joint plenary meetings of the subsidiary bodies to hear statements, with a view to improving time management and enhancing the coherence and coordination of the consideration of issues across the bodies.

15. The SBI recommended that the dates for the first sessional periods in 2018 and 2019 be amended to Monday, 30 April, to Friday, 11 May 2018, and Monday, 17 June, to Friday, 28 June 2019, respectively.

16. The SBI underscored the paramount importance of the principles of inclusiveness and transparency of the UNFCCC process and the value of the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders and their contributions to the deliberations on substantive issues.

17. The SBI took note of the summary report¹ on the views of Parties, observer organizations and interested United Nations agencies on opportunities to further enhance the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders² with a view to strengthening the

¹ FCCC/SBI/2017/INF.3.

² The term “non-Party stakeholders” appears in decision 1/CP.21, for example in the preamble: “non-Party stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities, local communities and indigenous peoples”.

implementation of the provisions of decision 1/CP.21 and the summary report on the in-session workshop on opportunities to further enhance the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders with a view to strengthening the implementation of the provisions of decision 1/CP.21, held on 9 May 2017.³

18. The SBI expressed appreciation for the active participation of both Parties and non-Party stakeholders in the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 17 above and welcomed the wide range of proposals and the constructive exchange of views.

19. The SBI identified opportunities to further enhance the openness, transparency and inclusiveness of the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders, reflecting the proposals and views expressed in the in-session workshop, through, inter alia:

- (a) Inviting the presiding officers of the subsidiary bodies and constituted bodies, subject to the availability of funding, time and space:
 - (i) To increase opportunities for admitted observer organizations to make interventions and provide regular briefings on the advancement of work;
 - (ii) To make greater use of inputs by non-Party stakeholders in workshops and technical meetings, as well as through submissions;
- (b) Encouraging future Presidencies, subject to the availability of resources:
 - (i) To explore ways to enable admitted NGO constituencies to have an open dialogue with Parties, whereby agenda-setting as well as programming of the dialogue are conducted jointly among the admitted NGO constituencies, the Presidency, the Bureau and the secretariat as appropriate, on the understanding that any outcomes of such a dialogue should have persuasive value only, respecting the Party-driven nature of the UNFCCC process;
 - (ii) To explore, within the existing processes and draft rules of procedure being applied and under the existing agenda items, ways of exchanging information on best practices and on gaps and challenges to public participation and public access to information with regard to nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans;
- (c) Inviting the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources:
 - (i) To explore ways to enhance the capability of the online registration system to accommodate more flexible participation of various categories of participants, such as Parties and observer States, United Nations organizations, admitted IGOs, admitted NGOs and experts invited to specific events;
 - (ii) To enhance existing practices for the facilitation of non-Party stakeholder participation with a view to promoting the openness, transparency and inclusiveness of the UNFCCC process;
 - (iii) To further enhance Parties' access to submissions from non-Party stakeholders;
 - (iv) To further encourage participation through enhanced virtual tools in order to support engagement of, and opportunities for, all non-Party stakeholders in the UNFCCC process.

20. The SBI invited Parties and non-Party stakeholders to submit their views, by 31 January 2018, and agreed to take stock at SBI 48 (April–May 2018) of progress in the

³ FCCC/SBI/2017/INF.7.

implementation of the SBI conclusions on non-Party stakeholder engagement⁴ with a view to considering how such engagement can be further enhanced.

21. The SBI took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraph 19 above. It requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of resources.

⁴ There are numerous conclusions relating to observer engagement, in particular, document FCCC/SBI/2011/7, paragraphs 175–178.