



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Fifty-eighth session

Bonn, 5–15 June 2023

Agenda item 7

Research and systematic observation

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted the importance of discussion under this agenda item on scientific advances and on research gaps and needs relevant to supporting work under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
2. The SBSTA welcomed the activities and information reported in the statements delivered at the opening plenary of this session by the Global Climate Observing System, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the World Climate Research Programme and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
3. The SBSTA invited WMO to report on the outcomes of the nineteenth World Meteorological Congress, held from 22 May to 2 June 2023, at SBSTA 59 (November–December 2023).
4. The SBSTA welcomed the Synthesis Report¹ of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6).² It expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the authors and the entire IPCC community for their work on the Synthesis Report. It noted that the AR6 is an important contribution to the best available science for supporting decision-making on climate change.
5. The SBSTA expressed its appreciation to its Chair, the Chair and secretariat of the IPCC and the UNFCCC secretariat for organizing the SBSTA–IPCC special event on key findings from the Synthesis Report of the AR6, held on 5 June 2023.³
6. Reflecting on the special event, the SBSTA noted the significant advances in scientific understanding of climate change since the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). Risks are increasing with every increment of global warming, and for any given future warming level, many climate-related risks are higher than assessed in the AR5.
7. The SBSTA expressed its appreciation to its Chair and the secretariat for organizing the fifteenth meeting of the research dialogue, held on 8 June 2023, on transformational

¹ IPCC. 2023. *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Core Writing Team, H Lee, and J Romero (eds.). Geneva: IPCC. Available at <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/>.

² The AR6 includes three IPCC Working Group reports, three IPCC Special Reports and the Synthesis Report.

³ See <https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-ipcc-special-event-key-findings-of-the-sixth-assessment-synthesis-report>.



adaptation, non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gases and carbon dioxide removal, including negative-emission technologies.⁴

8. Reflecting on the event and meeting referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above respectively, the SBSTA noted scientific advances, knowledge gaps and research needs related to scenario development and use; high-resolution regional information; complex, cascading and transboundary risks; risks and opportunities related to upscaling carbon dioxide removal; the implications of different emission metric choices to climate change policies; enabling environments including technologies and support; synergies and trade-offs between mitigation, adaptation and the Sustainable Development Goals; and the consideration of equity.

9. The SBSTA encouraged Parties, research programmes and organizations, and the scientific community to take action to address the gaps and needs referred to in paragraph 8 above, including by strengthening regional research capacity, and research inclusivity. It also encouraged the IPCC to continue its efforts to enhance inclusivity and regional representation in its seventh assessment cycle.

10. It invited its Chair to prepare, with the assistance of the secretariat, a summary report on the meeting referred to in paragraph 7 above, to be made available in advance of SBSTA 59.

11. The SBSTA expressed its appreciation and gratitude to IPCC experts and other experts for their contributions to the event and meeting referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above respectively and for their contributions to mandated and other events related to the IPCC AR6 held during this session.

12. The SBSTA invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit via the submission portal⁵ by 15 March 2024 views on possible themes for the sixteenth meeting of the research dialogue, to be held in conjunction with SBSTA 60 (June 2024).

13. The SBSTA recommended draft decisions on the AR6 for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-eighth session (November–December 2023) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its fifth session of (November–December 2023) (for the text of the draft decisions, see document FCCC/SBSTA/2023/L.7/Add.1–2).

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/event/research-dialogue-15>.

⁵ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.