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**REPORT OF THE JOINT WORKING GROUP OF THE OFFICERS  
OF THE IPCC AND THE UNFCCC**

Note by the secretariat

The Joint Working Group (JWG) of the officers of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) held a meeting in Bonn on 24 February 1997. The agenda included the following topics: the status of the IPCC's technical papers, including the technical paper on the implications of different emission limitation proposals by Annex I Parties, the division of labour between the IPCC and the bodies of the Convention related to methodologies, the status of IPCC workshops, and cooperation with the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

Professor Bolin, Chairman of IPCC, informed the JWG about the status of the technical papers related to simple climate models and stabilization scenarios. These papers are completed and will be distributed during this session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). Professor Bolin also provided a summary of information to be contained in the technical paper on the implications of different emission limitation proposals by Annex I Parties on projected temperature increases, sea-level rise and other changes. The technical paper will be made available after approval by the Bureau of the IPCC in September.

The JWG also considered the division of labour between the IPCC and the Convention bodies. While the discussion produced only preliminary conclusions, it was generally felt that the IPCC, in cooperation with other international organizations, should take the lead in methodological activities related to inventorying greenhouse gases (GHGs), assessing impacts of climate change and socio-economic cost benefit analysis. It was agreed that the secretariat should continue to develop a coordinated work programme in consultation with the IPCC and other international organizations. It was also agreed that the secretariat should prepare a paper on the basis of comments from the JWG for preliminary consideration by the consultative group on methodologies. The secretariat will give further consideration to institutional arrangements and aim to produce a workplan for review by the JWG by the middle of May 1997.

The JWG considered proposed dates for three meetings to be organized by the IPCC, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the International Energy Agency (IEA) programme on GHG inventories. Meetings on forest and savanna burning will be held in Australia from 23 to 25 June 1997 and on top-down versus bottom-up methodologies in November in the Netherlands. Given the secretariat workload and the possibility of new information being made available in the communications from Annex I Parties, it was decided to delay the workshop on harvesting wood products until later in the year.

The secretariat noted that it had received a letter requesting information on the impacts of climate change on migratory birds from the CMS. A similar request had been made by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. It was agreed that the request should be forwarded to the IPCC for consideration in the design of the Third Assessment Report and that the UNFCCC should cooperate to the extent possible with the CMS. It was noted that the Second Assessment Report has relevant information about the impacts of climate change on ecosystems.