
SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Sixth session
Bonn, 28 July - 5 August 1997

**REPORT OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE ON THE WORK OF ITS
SIXTH SESSION, BONN, 28 JULY - 5 AUGUST 1997**

Draft report by the Rapporteur, including proposal for conclusions by the Chairman

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I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

(Agenda item 1)

1. The sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) was held at the Maritim Hotel, Bonn, from 28 July to 5 August 1997.
2. The Chairman of the SBSTA, Mr. Tibor Faragó, opened the session on 28 July 1997. He welcomed all delegates and observers from non-parties, United Nations bodies and organizations, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and wished the participants a successful session.
3. The Executive Secretary welcomed the participants, in particular the new Parties to the Convention, provided information on the preparation for the sessions, and reviewed the planning for the third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 3). He urged that each subsidiary body at this and the next sessions should, to the extent possible, aim at producing draft decisions recommended by it for adoption by the COP without further discussion. He urged the SBSTA and Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) to minimize requests for new documentation for their October sessions.
4. The Executive Secretary expressed concern at the pace of submission of national communications, noting that only six Annex I Parties had met the deadline, and that so far, only half of the communications due, had been received. Two communications had been received so far from non-Annex I Parties. He recalled that communications were the basic commitment of all Parties and that their lack would inhibit the ability of the Parties to assess the need for future action to advance implementation and to strengthen the Convention.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

(Agenda item 2)

A. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 2 (a))

5. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July 1997, the SBSTA considered the provisional agenda contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1997/5.
6. Statements were made by representatives of three Parties,
7. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA adopted the following agenda, in which the former agenda item 9 (Methodological issues related to joint implementation) was shifted to become a sub-item under agenda item 4.
 1. Opening of the session.

2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Election of officers other than the Chairman;
 - (c) Organization of the work of the session;
 - (d) Preparation by the SBSTA for the third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 3).
3. Division of Labour between the SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI).
4. Methodological issues.
 - (a) Programme of work
 - (b) Methodological issues related to joint implementation.
5. Cooperation with relevant international organizations.
6. National communications:
 - (a) Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention;
 - (b) Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
7. Development and transfer of technologies.
8. Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase.
9. Report on the session

B. Election of officers other than the Chairman

(Agenda item 2 (b))

8. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the sub-item on the election of officers other than the Chairman.

9. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the SBSTA of the informal consultations with the representatives of regional groups during the sixth session of the AD HOC Group on the Berlin Mandate (AGBM) and of the agreement reached on the election of officers other than the Chairman. Subsequently, the SBSTA elected Mr. S. Sok Appadu (Mauritius) and Mr. Alvaro J. Rodriguez (Colombia) as Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur respectively.

C. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2 (c))

10. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the sub-item on the organization of the work of the session.

11. The Chairman recalled that services for formal meetings with interpretation would be available in the morning, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and in the afternoon, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 28 and 30 July, and in the afternoon only on 5 August 1997.

12. The Chairman reminded the SBSTA that the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (COP) had decided previously to continue its policy of allowing representatives of non-governmental organizations access to the conference room floor before and after the meetings, but not during the meetings.

13. The Chairman informed the SBSTA that it was his intention, as during the previous session of the SBSTA, to invoke the flexibility accorded by the Bureau of the COP to the Chairman of each subsidiary body to grant representatives of non-governmental organizations, access to the floor, as observers.

14. The Chairman also informed the SBSTA that the applications of two intergovernmental and 10 non-governmental organizations had been screened by the secretariat on the basis of the provisions of Article 7.6 of the Convention and in accordance with the procedures established by the COP for the admission of organizations as observers. The SBSTA agreed to grant access to these organizations for the current session of the SBSTA, pending formal action on their accreditation by the COP at its third session. These organizations are indicated in the lists of attendance.

15. In view of this meeting of the SBSTA/Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Joint Working Group planned for 29 July 1997, and on a proposal by the Chairman, it was agreed to consider item 5 of the agenda on co-operation with relevant international organizations on Wednesday, 30 July 1997. It was further agreed that agenda item 8 on activities implemented jointly be considered on Monday, 28 July 1997.

**D. Preparation by the SBSTA for the third session of the
Conference of the Parties (COP 3)**

(Agenda item 2 (d))

16. The Chairman reiterated the need that the SBSTA should prepare at this and the seventh session, recommendations on the issues on the SBSTA agenda, that the COP would need to address at its third session. He hoped, in particular, that the SBSTA, jointly with the SBI, could already at this session, agree on a draft decision regarding the division of labour between these bodies.

E. Attendance

17. The lists of attendance at the sixth session of the SBSTA are given in document FCCC/1997/... and FCCC/1997/... .

F. Documentation

18. The documents prepared for the sixth session of the SBSTA, as well as other documents which were made available, are listed in annex

**III. DIVISION OF LABOUR BETWEEN THE SBSTA AND THE
SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION (SBI)**

(Agenda item 3)

1. Proceedings

19. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the item on the division of labour between the SBSTA and the SBI. It had before it a document prepared by the secretariat (FCCC/SB/1997/2).

20. On a proposal of its Chairman, endorsed by the Chairman of the SBI, the SBSTA set up an informal contact group to conduct consultations on the division of labour between the SBSTA and the SBI. This group was invited to prepare draft conclusions on the division of labour for adoption by the SBSTA and the SBI, including a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its third session.

21. Statements were made by representatives of --- Parties, ...

2. Conclusion

22. At its 5th meeting, on 5 August, having considered a proposal by the Chairman, the SBSTA adopted the following conclusion:

(a) At their sixth sessions, the SBI and the SBSTA both decided to recommend a draft decision for adoption by the COP at its third session. The text of this decision is included in the report of the sixth session of the SBI under item 3.

IV. METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

(Agenda item 4)

A. Programme of work

(Agenda item 4 (a))

1. Proceedings

23. At its first meeting, on 28 July 1997, the SBSTA had before it documents related to methodologies, namely FCCC/SB/1997/INF.2, FCCC/SBI/1997/10 and FCCC/SBI/1997/INF.1. Having considered a proposal made by the Chairman, the SBSTA established an informal consultative group under the Co-Chairmanship of the Vice-Chairman of the SBSTA and a delegate. The group met on five occasions and considered priorities on methodological issues, including the implications for the biennium budget of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). On the basis of their recommendations, the SBSTA adopted the following conclusions:

24. Statements were made by representatives of ---- Parties, ...

2. Conclusions

25. Regarding the work of other international organizations, the SBSTA:

(a) Welcomed the plans of the IPCC to assess methodologies in the literature that are relevant to all the clusters, namely inventories, projection, mitigation, impacts and adaptation, and socio-economic cost-benefit analysis, as part of the Third Assessment Report (TAR). It also noted that such information could contribute to the work of other international organizations, the SBSTA and other bodies of the Convention;

(b) Noted with appreciation the close collaboration between the IPCC and the secretariat, particularly in the work on inventories of GHG emissions, and strongly supported the future work programme of the IPCC, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the International Energy Agency (OECD/IEA) on this topic. It requested the IPCC/OECD/IEA in its work on inventories to consider accelerating its task on uncertainties, so that the results could be taken into consideration by the SBSTA;

(c) Noted and strongly supported the work programmes identified in FCCC/SB/1997/INF.2 and conducted by other international organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/RISO) on assessing mitigation measures and policies, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on methods for assessing industrial mitigation technologies and UNEP on methods for assessing impacts of climate change; and

(d) Invited the above international organizations to continue to provide information on their work to the SBSTA.

26. Regarding the work programme to be conducted by the secretariat in the next biennium, the SBSTA:

(a) Decided that the highest priority should be given to activities related to the application of the methods for GHG inventories and high priority be given to projections of GHG emissions and sinks; and

(b) Decided that priority should also be given to methods for evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness and effects of specific policies and measures and for assessing adaptation strategies and technologies.

27. On the basis of the above, the SBSTA urged the SBI to give consideration to the indicative budget, reflecting priorities for methodological work, proposed in the following table in establishing a UNFCCC budget for the next biennium.

**TABLE: INDICATIVE BUDGET FOR THE
METHODOLOGICAL WORK PROGRAMME OF THE UNFCCC**

| Methodological Activity (Cluster/task) | Resources recommended by the SBSTA for the programme budget 1998-1999 k (USD)/WY |
|--|---|
| A. Inventorying GHG emissions and sinks | 873 6.0 |
| B. Projections of GHG emissions and sinks | 333 2.0 |
| C. Mitigation | |
| Evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness and effects of specific policies and measures | 135 1.0 |
| D. Impacts and adaptation | |
| Assessing adaptation strategies and technologies | 135 1.0 |
| Experts from non-Annex I Parties | 90 |
| Total resources (including WY) | 1566* 10.0 |

*This includes estimates for consultants (134,000 USD in 1998, 134,000 USD in 1999)
and travel (52,000 USD in 1998, 57,000 USD in 1999)

28. The SBSTA urged the secretariat, in carrying out the work programme on methodologies, to co-operate closely with the IPCC and other international organizations.

29. The SBSTA noted the important need to ensure the participation of experts from Parties, in particular non-Annex I Parties, bearing in mind the need for relevant regional balance and examples given in Article 4.8 of the Convention. It noted that the Trust Fund for supplementary activities could be utilized to support the participation of additional experts, from eligible Parties. It urged Parties to provide adequate funding for these activities.

30. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to report on progress on its work programme on methodologies.

31. At the next session, the SBSTA will begin consideration of the appropriate ways to provide terms of reference of expert contributions and the review of technical documents to be produced, in accordance with the work programme on methodologies.

32. The SBSTA requested Parties to provide initial comments by January 20, 1998 to the secretariat on the priority areas and options for work on projections, for compilation into a miscellaneous document, and consideration at the eighth session of the SBSTA.

B. Methodological issues related to joint implementation

(Agenda item 4 (b))

[to be completed]

V. COOPERATION WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Agenda item 5)

1. Proceedings

33. At its 3rd meeting, on 30 July, the SBSTA considered the item on co-operation with relevant international organizations. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/1997/MISC.4.

34. Statements were made by representatives of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC/UNESCO), the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF/STAP), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and UNEP.

35. The Chairman of the SBSTA provided a report on the meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) of officers of the UNFCCC and the IPCC, which took place on 29 July 1997.

36. The Chairman and the Chairman-elect of the IPCC made statements and also responded to questions.

37. Statements were made by representatives of --- Parties, ...

2. Conclusions

38. At its 3rd meeting, on 30 July, in response to the above mentioned statements, and upon the proposal of the Chairman, the SBSTA:

(a) Noted with appreciation the information provided by the IOC of UNESCO, the STAP of GEF, WMO, and UNEP on the progress of programmes carried out by their respective organizations and other organizations involved in the Climate Agenda;

(b) Also noted with appreciation the information provided by the Chairman and the Chairman-elect of the IPCC, particularly regarding the TAR, and noted with satisfaction the regional emphasis and the further involvement of experts from developing countries. It invited Parties to submit additional information on key policy issues, particularly regarding the synthesis report, to the secretariat before 20 January 1998, to be compiled into a miscellaneous document;

(c) Requested the secretariat to organize, together with the IPCC, an informal meeting at the next session of the SBSTA to discuss key issues to be addressed in the TAR;

39. The SBSTA called upon Parties to work through other relevant organizations, including the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), to address climate change issues in their deliberations and request these organizations to provide reports on their work to future sessions of the SBSTA;

40. The SBSTA further requested the above mentioned organizations to continue their valuable work in support of the Convention process.

VI. NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

(Agenda item 6)

A. Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

(Agenda item 6 (a))

1. Proceedings

41. At its 2nd meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the sub-item on communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. It had before it document FCCC/SB/1997/5 and FCCC/SB/1997/6.

42. Statements were made by representatives of ---Parties, ...

2. Conclusion

43. The SBSTA took note of the documents prepared by the secretariat under this agenda item and endorsed the proposal from the Chairman that these documents are to be considered by the SBI, in accordance with the proposed division of labour between the SBI and the SBSTA.

B. Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

(Agenda item 6 (b))

1. Proceedings

44. At its 2nd meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the sub-item on communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention. It had before it documents FCCC/SBI/1997/9 and FCC/SBI/1997/13. The SBSTA decided to refer this sub-item to the SBI for its consideration.

45. Statements were made by representatives of Parties, ...

[to be completed]

VII. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES

(Agenda item 7)

1. Proceedings

46. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 30 July, respectively, the SBSTA considered the item on development and transfer of technologies. It had before it three documents prepared by the secretariat, FCCC/SB/1997/3, FCCC/SB/1997/4 and FCCC/TP/1997/1.

47. Statements were made by representatives of twelve Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and another speaking on behalf of the African Group.

2. Conclusions

48. At its 5th meeting, on 5 August, the SBSTA agreed to the following conclusions.

49. The SBSTA took note with appreciation of the progress reports prepared by the secretariat, and the technical report with information on trends of financial flows and terms and conditions employed by multilateral lending institutions.

50. The SBSTA also expressed appreciation for the information on adaptation technology and information centers and networks, and encouraged the secretariat to complete the reports on these subjects for the next session of the SBSTA.

51. The SBSTA supported the secretariat's plans to prepare reports on the role of the private sector, and on barriers and enabling activities of governments related to the transfer of technology.

52. The SBSTA encouraged the secretariat to extend its co-operation with other organizations such as the World Bank and the OECD, with the aim of, *inter alia*, improving the availability of climate relevant data. In this context, it noted that the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD is co-operating with the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) in order to introduce a specific biodiversity "marker" in their statistics and considered the need for similar information regarding climate change projects.

53. The SBSTA discussed the subject of inter-governmental technical advisory panels (ITAPs). It noted that the secretariat has been requested to prepare a report on its experience

in using the roster of experts. It recalled that the subject of ITAPs, including their possible establishment, would be considered by the SBSTA at its seventh session and requested Parties to send any new ideas on ITAPs to the secretariat by 31 August 1997.

54. The SBSTA welcomed that the secretariat had made use of the roster in three expert meetings on technology and technology transfer issues and recalled its request to Parties which have not yet done so, to nominate experts for the roster, bearing in mind the need for experts with a background in economic and financial aspects of the transfer of technology.

VIII. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY UNDER THE PILOT PHASE

(Agenda item 8)

1. Proceedings

55. At its 2nd meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the item on activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/1997/INF.2.

56. Statements were made by representatives of --- Parties,

2. Conclusion

57. The SBSTA took note with appreciation of the information on activities implemented jointly contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/1997/INF.2 and of the ongoing work of the secretariat in this field.

IX. REPORT ON THE SESSION

(Agenda item 9)

58. At its meeting, on 5 August, the SBSTA authorized the Rapporteur, under the guidance of the Chairman and with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report taking into account the discussions of the Group and the need for editorial adjustments.

[to be completed]

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