

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Ninth session

Buenos Aires, 3-10 November 1998

Agenda item 3

**MATTERS REFERRED TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE BY THE PLENARY
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

Land-use change and forestry

(Agenda item 5 (a) (i) of the Conference of the Parties)

Draft conclusions by the Chairman

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of the information provided by the secretariat on land-use, land-use change and forestry in documents FCCC/CP/1998/INF.4, FCCC/CP/1998/MISC.1 and Add.1-2, and FCCC/CP/1998/MISC.9 and Add.1-2.
2. The SBSTA decided to recommend a draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties (COP) at its fourth session.
3. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a second SBSTA workshop prior to its tenth session, with participation by experts, including those engaged in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) process, to focus on issues related to Article 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol, such as methodologies, uncertainties, research and data needs, and those identified in document FCCC/SBSTA/1998/INF.1 and in submissions from Parties, and to further elaborate on issues arising from the first workshop. It further requested the secretariat to report on the second workshop at the tenth session of the SBSTA.
4. The SBSTA welcomed the offer of the United States of America to provide a venue for the second workshop.
5. The SBSTA invited Parties to provide submissions by 1 February 1999 on other issues to be considered at the workshop.

6. The SBSTA expressed appreciation to the Government of Japan for providing funding to support the participation of developing country representatives in the workshop on land-use, land-use change and forestry hosted at the headquarters of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy.

[For the text of the draft decision mentioned in paragraph 2 above, see the annex below]

Annex

Land-use change and forestry

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 1/CP.3 on the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular its paragraph 5 (a);

Noting the conclusions adopted by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, at its eighth session, on land-use, land-use change and forestry;

Noting also with appreciation the decision of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to prepare a special report on land-use, land-use change and forestry;

Having considered the report¹ prepared by the secretariat on a Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice workshop on data availability based on definitions used by Parties and international organizations in relation to Article 3.3 of the Kyoto Protocol, which was held coincident with an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change expert meeting from 24 to 25 September 1998, and the submissions by Parties on land-use, land-use change and forestry²;

1. *Decides* to confirm the understanding expressed in the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its eighth session that the meaning of Article 3.3 of the Kyoto Protocol is as follows: the adjustment to a Party's assigned amount shall be equal to verifiable changes in carbon stocks during the period 2008 to 2012 resulting from direct human-induced activities of afforestation, reforestation and deforestation since 1 January 1990. Where the result of this calculation is a net sink, this value shall be added to the Party's assigned amount. Where the result of this calculation is a net emission, this value shall be subtracted from the Party's assigned amount;

2. *Decides* to endorse the other relevant conclusions on land-use, land-use change and forestry made by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its eighth session;

¹ FCCC/CP/1998/INF.4.

² FCCC/CP/1998/MISC.1 and Add.1-2, and FCCC/CP/1998/MISC.9 and Add.1-2.

3. *Decides* to recommend that the Conference of the Parties, at its first session following the completion of the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, adopt a draft decision to be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its first session on definitions and requirements related to activities under Article 3.3;

4. *Decides* to recommend that the Conference of the Parties, at its first session following the completion of the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, adopt a draft decision to be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its first session on modalities, rules and guidelines as to how, and which additional human-induced activities related to changes in greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks in the agricultural soils and the land-use change and forestry categories might be included under Article 3.4;

5. *Further decides* to adopt, at the first session of the Conference of the Parties practicable following the completion of the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, a draft decision to be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its first session on guidelines for necessary supplementary information with respect to annual greenhouse gas inventories under the provisions of Article 7.1 and 7.4 for reporting required in connection with Article 3.3 and 3.4;

6. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider, at its tenth session, the requirements necessary to fulfil the provisions of the first sentence of Article 3.4, and *invites* Parties to provide submissions on such requirements to the secretariat by 1 March 1999;

7. *Affirms* the importance of broad participation by Parties, particularly developing country Parties, in the work of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on land-use, land-use change and forestry;

8. *Requests* the secretariat to compile, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its tenth session, a list of policy and procedural issues associated with Article 3.3 and 3.4, based on existing submissions by Parties and any further submissions by Parties, and *invites* Parties to provide submissions on these issues to the secretariat by 1 March 1999;

9. *Also requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its tenth session to give further consideration to planning its work on land-use, land-use change and forestry;

10. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue to provide progress reports on its activities related to land-use, land-use change and forestry to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice.