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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE  
SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION  
Second sessions  
Geneva, 27 February - 4 March 1996

**EXTRACTS FROM THE PROVISIONAL REPORTS OF THE SUBSIDIARY  
BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AND THE  
SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Extracts from the provisional reports of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at their second sessions held in Geneva from 27 February to 4 March 1996, are reproduced in the present document, in sections III-IX. The provisional reports are subject to review by the responsible officers of the subsidiary bodies and to editorial changes. It has not been possible to reproduce the conclusions from all agenda items of the SBI as a number of these are still being finalised. The document has been prepared for the convenience of delegates and will be superseded by the sessional reports in due course. With the aim of providing a clear indication of action taken on each topic, the conclusions have been regrouped by topic, rather than being presented by agenda item of the two subsidiary bodies.
2. In their conclusions, the SBSTA and the SBI, at their second sessions, requested the secretariat to prepare a number of documents that would take into account the views submitted by Parties to be received after the second sessions. These requests for submissions have been summarized in section II below. Some other items on which Parties are invited to take action have also been summarized.
3. In addition to those submissions that Parties have specifically been invited to provide by the SBSTA and the SBI, the secretariat would also welcome the submission of views on any other matters that are under consideration by these bodies. These latter submissions, however, will not be reproduced and distributed as a miscellaneous document, but will remain for secretariat use only.
4. To facilitate the work of the secretariat, it would be very much appreciated if all submissions would identify explicitly and clearly the request from which they emanate. In view of the short time available to the secretariat to prepare the requested documentation, it would be helpful if inputs were made available even before the deadlines indicated. Fax or electronic mail would be a suitable medium for advance submissions.
5. Governments wishing that their submission(s) be incorporated in compilations should clearly so request and are invited to provide a single-spaced original text suitable for reproduction. Fax or electronic mail is not a suitable medium for this purpose.
6. Compilations will be issued in the original languages of submissions. Any Government which feels that a translation of its submission would help its wider dissemination is invited to provide such a translation to the secretariat for inclusion in the compilation.

## II. ACTION REQUIRED BY PARTIES

### Scientific Assessments: Consideration of the Second Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (agenda item 4 (a) of SBSTA 2)

7. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit their views on the Second Assessment Report to facilitate a full consideration of the Report, to be transmitted to the secretariat by 30 April 1996.
8. The SBSTA invited, *inter alia*, Parties to make the findings and projections of the second assessment report available in a suitable form to different audiences with special attention being given to the impacts and circumstances at the national and regional level.
9. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a summary report on research and observation issues, in close collaboration on with Parties, amongst other entities. The secretariat would welcome suggestions from Parties on this topic, preferably before 15 April 1996.

### Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (agenda item 5 (a) of SBSTA 2)

10. The SBSTA recalled decision 3/CP.1 requesting Annex I Parties to submit to the secretariat national inventory data for the period 1990-1993 and, where available, for 1994 by 15 April 1996, and encouraged these Parties to submit these data, recognizing that Annex I Parties with economies in transition may exercise a certain degree of flexibility based on Article 4.6 of the Convention regarding these submissions.
11. The SBSTA invited Annex I Parties to forward to the secretariat their suggestions related to presentation of inventory data on the land use change and forestry sector for years subsequent to 1990 and on projections in this sector, as well as on aggregating data on greenhouse gases sources and sinks from this and other sectors, by 1 April 1996.
12. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit views on possible revisions to the Guidelines as suggested in document FCCC/SBSTA/1996/3 by 1 April 1996 (see also paragraph 16 on transfer of technology below).
13. The SBSTA urged Parties included in Annex I to the Convention that have not yet submitted national communications to do so in time for the second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 2).

Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention  
(agenda item 3 (b) of SBI 2)

14. The SBI invited Parties not included in Annex I to nominate national focal points for facilitating assistance for the preparation of the initial communications.

Technology inventory and assessment  
(agenda item 7 of SBSTA 2)

15. The SBSTA urged all Parties who have not already done so to provide the secretariat information and databases on environmentally sound and economically viable technologies and know-how conducive to mitigating and adapting to climate change, including information from the private sector when possible, and to continue to do so on a routine basis in the future.

Transfer of technology  
(agenda item 5 of SBI 2)

16. The SBI invited Parties to submit comments on the subjects identified in the conclusions on this agenda item to the secretariat by 15 April 1996 (see paragraphs 69-75 below).

Activities implemented jointly  
(agenda item 6 of SBSTA 2 and agenda item 6 of SBI 2)

17. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit reports in accordance with the initial reporting framework on activities implemented jointly (see section VII below). If the Parties choose not to report jointly, the secretariat will not be in a position to process information on that project until reports on that project from all Parties concerned, particularly developing country Parties, are transmitted to the secretariat.

18. The SBSTA invited Parties to identify the relevant governmental authority/ministry authorized to accept, approve or endorse activities implemented jointly and to report to the COP through the secretariat.

19. The SBI invited Parties to submit information to the secretariat by 1 April 1996 in accordance with the SBSTA decision for inclusion in a progress report on activities implemented jointly (see paragraphs section VII below).

Establishment of intergovernmental technical advisory panel(s)  
(agenda item 3 of SBSTA 2)

20. The SBSTA requested the Parties to submit comments on the concept of a roster of experts to assist the Convention process in the conduct of its work, including the disciplines that such a roster might cover, by 1 April 1996.

### III. SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENTS

#### A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

#### Consideration of the Second Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (agenda item 4 (a) of SBSTA 2)

##### 1. Proceedings

21. Some delegations drew attention to a number of important findings in the Second Assessment Report which they felt should be communicated to all bodies of the Convention and particularly to the AGBM, for consideration. These delegations highlighted that these findings underlined the necessity for urgent action to address adverse effects of climate change, including mitigation and adaptation;

(a) Atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases and aerosols are increasing largely because of human activities (IPCC Synthesis Report, Section 2.2, 2.3);

(b) Climate has changed over the past century (S.R. 2.4);

(c) The balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate (S.R. 2.4);

(d) Without specific policies to mitigate climate change, the global mean surface air temperature relative to 1990 is projected to increase by about 2 degrees Celsius (between 1.0 and 3.5 degrees Celsius) by 2100. This is probably greater than any observed during the last 10,000 years (S.R. 2.8);

(e) Average sea level is projected to rise by about 50 centimetres (between 15 and 95 centimetres) above present levels by 2100 (S.R. 2.8);

(f) Stabilization of atmospheric concentrations at twice pre-industrial levels will eventually require global emissions to be less than 50 percent of current levels (S.R. 4.10);

(g) Even if the concentrations of greenhouse gases were stabilized at 2100, global mean surface air temperature would continue to rise for some decades, and sea level for many centuries beyond that time (S.R. 2.7, 2.8);

(h) The projected changes in climate change will result in significant, often adverse impacts on many ecological systems and socio-economic sectors, including food supply and water resources, and on human health. In some cases, the impacts are potentially irreversible (S.R. 3.2, 3.3);

(i) Developing countries and small island countries are typically more vulnerable to climate change (S.R. 3.3);

(j) Significant reductions in net greenhouse gas emissions are technically possible and economically feasible by utilizing an extensive array of technology and policy measures that accelerate technology development, diffusion and transfer (S.R. 5.2);

(k) Significant no regrets opportunities are available in most countries to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, the risk of aggregate net damage due to climate change, consideration of risk aversion, and the precautionary principle provide rationales for action beyond no regrets (S.R. 8.2);

(l) A portfolio of existing cost effective technologies, policies and measures can be used to markedly reduce the net emissions of greenhouse gases from all sectors (S.R. 5.5, 5.6, 5.11, 5.12, 8.4);

(m) Flexible, cost effective policies relying on economic incentives and instruments, as well as coordinated instruments, can considerably reduce mitigation and adaptation costs, or can increase the cost-effectiveness of emission reduction measures (S.R. 8.3);

(n) Equity considerations are an important aspect of climate change policy and in achieving sustainable development. The intertemporal aspects of climate change policy also raise questions of intergenerational equity (S.R. 6.1, 6.5);

(o) Uncertainties remain and there is a need for further work to reduce these uncertainties.

22. Other delegations expressed their view that it is very premature for the SBSTA to attempt to highlight specific findings or conclusions contained in the Second Assessment Report. They stated their belief that the list of items identified by certain delegations was highly selective and reflected a very limited, and, therefore, biased view of what were important findings in the Second Assessment Report. They also pointed out that some of the items listed by others were taken out of context and failed to set forth important qualifications that the IPCC specifically stated.

23. These delegations suggested that a preliminary review of the IPCC's Synthesis Report indicated that other, important IPCC findings included, *inter alia*:

(a) Item 21 (c), above, is merely quoted selectively concerning the IPCC's conclusions that the balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate. It fails to disclose the key IPCC finding that its ability to quantify the human influence is limited "because there are uncertainties in key factors." It fails to disclose that

one of these uncertainties in key factors concerns the magnitude and patterns of long-term natural variability. This information is clearly set forth in the Working Group I Summary for Policymakers, page 4 and in the IPCC Synthesis report, para. 2.4.

(b) Item 21 (d), above, fails to disclose that, the estimated temperature increase of 2°C by 2100 is approximately 1/3 lower than the IPCC's "best estimate" in 1990. That information is contained in para. 2.7 of the Synthesis Report and on page 5 of the Working Group I Summary for Policymakers.

(c) Item 21 (e), above, fails to disclose the important information that the estimate of sea level rise by 2100 is 25 per cent lower than the IPCC's "best estimate" in 1990. That information is found in para. 2.8 of the Synthesis report and on page 5 of the Working Group I Summary for Policymakers.

(d) Much attention has been paid to the issues of so called extreme events. Unfortunately the items in paragraph 21 above, fail to disclose the very important conclusion that "there are inadequate data to determine whether consistent global changes in climate variability or weather extremes have occurred over the 20th century." Such information is located at para. 2.5 of the Synthesis report and on p.3 of the Working Group I Summary for Policymakers.

(e) Certainly, a key finding of the IPCC Synthesis report, found in para. 2.12, is that "many uncertainties and many factors currently limit our ability to project and detect future climate change."

(f) Insofar as item 21 (h), above purports to deal with impacts on food supply, it is seriously misleading because it fails to disclose the key information in para. 3.13 of the Synthesis report and Section 3.3 of the IPCC Working Group II Summary for Policymakers that "existing studies show that on the whole, global agricultural production could be maintained relative to baseline production in the face of climate change projected underdoubled equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> equilibrium."

(g) Insofar as the list of items, above, concern response strategies and call for urgent action, it should be recalled that IPCC Working Group III specifically concluded that "the value of better information about climate change processes and impacts and society's responses to them is likely to be great," and that para.8.4 of the Synthesis report called attention to "large differences in the cost of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and enhancing sinks, among countries due to their state of economic development, infrastructure choices, and natural resources base."



## 2. Conclusions

24. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) expressed its appreciation to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and to the Chairman of the IPCC for the excellent work carried out in drawing up the Second Assessment Report and for the Chairman's presentation to the SBSTA on 27 February of the key points from the report. It considered the Second Assessment Report to be the most comprehensive assessment of available scientific and technical information related to climate change.

25. The SBSTA held an initial exchange of views on the Second Assessment Report during its meetings. It commended the entire Second Assessment Report to all bodies of the Convention and particularly to the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate (AGBM). The SBSTA invited Parties to send their views on the Report to facilitate a full consideration of the Report, at the third session, in keeping with its mandate as contained in paragraph 1 of Annex I and paragraph 1 of Annex II of COP decision 6/CP.1. The views of the Parties should be transmitted to the secretariat by 30 April 1996.

26. The SBSTA decided to include in its future work programme the key questions, deriving from Article 2 of the Convention, namely the level of atmospheric greenhouse gases concentrations that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system and the paths to stabilization at that level, taking into account the common but differentiated responsibilities of Parties. In this context, the IPCC Second Assessment synthesis of scientific-technical information relevant to interpreting Article 2 of the Convention was considered as an important scientifically-based, comprehensive analysis. It also recognized that the IPCC would have to provide further technical inputs that would enable the SBSTA and the Conference of the Parties (COP) to address the ultimate objective of the Convention.

27. The SBSTA also agreed that the findings and projections of the Second Assessment Report should be made available in a suitable form to different audiences with special attention being given to the impacts and circumstances at national and regional level. It invited Parties, organizations and institutions to give appropriate attention to this need.

28. The SBSTA took note of the information provided by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and by a number of Parties, relevant to the implementation of Article 5 of the Convention, on Research and Systematic Observation. It requested the secretariat to prepare a summary report on research and observation issues, with attention to Article 5, and particularly to Article 5 (c), of the Convention, in close collaboration with Parties and concerned international organizations, and taking into account the recommendations of the Second Assessment Report, for consideration by the third session of the SBSTA and subsequently by the COP.

Scientific assessments: Cooperation with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
(agenda item 4 (b) of SBSTA 2)

Conclusions

29. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the decisions taken by the IPCC at its eleventh session in Rome (December 1995), on its future work programme, and particularly that it intends to prepare a Third Assessment Report by about 2000 and continue to work on methodologies for greenhouse gas inventory.

30. The SBSTA considered the conclusions of the meetings of the Joint Working Group of officers of the UNFCCC and the IPCC. Taking into account also the statements made during the session, it requested the IPCC to undertake the proposed activities in support of the SBSTA contained in the annex to this document, and advise the SBSTA accordingly.

31. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to take these proposed activities as the basis for proposing a financial contribution to the IPCC in 1996, as provided in the Convention budget and to report thereon to the third session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the second session of the COP.

32. The SBSTA appreciated that, in addition to the proposed activities in the annex to this document, the IPCC was providing enhanced scientific and technical information to the evolving needs of the AGBM.

33. The SBSTA noted that, for several issues identified in the annex to this document FCCC/SBSTA/1995/3, some information is available in the IPCC Special Report 1994, the Second Assessment Report, and would be expected to be included in the Third Assessment Report. These issues are:

- Developing and / or assessing: a) methodologies for projecting national, regional and global emissions, b) methodologies for evaluating the effects of measures, and c) the application of global warming potentials;
- Information on sources and sinks;
- Reducing uncertainties related to particulate matter and tropospheric ozone.

34. The SBSTA noted further that, in addition to its sponsoring bodies WMO and UNEP, the IPCC was cooperating with other relevant competent international organizations in responding to the need for objective scientific and technical advice, and emphasized the importance of such cooperation.

35. Finally, the SBSTA requested its Chairman to continue the series of meetings of the Joint Working Group of Officers of the UNFCCC and the IPCC, as and when appropriate, and to report on these meetings to future sessions of the SBSTA.

#### IV. NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

##### A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

##### Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (agenda item 5 (a) of SBSTA 2)

##### Conclusions

36. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) took note of the progress report on in-depth reviews (FCCC/SB/1996/2) and of the in-depth review reports issued so far (FCCC/IDR.1/CZE, FCCC/IDR.1/SWE, FCCC/IDR.1/AUS, FCCC/IDR.1/USA, FCCC/IDR.1/CAN, FCCC/IDR.1/CHE). The SBSTA endorsed the format, scope and approaches of the in-depth review reports and emphasized the importance of monitoring the overall implementation of the Convention. The SBSTA took note with regret that the time schedule for these reviews as set by the first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 1) could not be met owing to resource limitations and/or scheduling problems. It stressed the importance of completing the first cycle of in-depth reviews by the end of 1996 and of issuing as many reports as possible before the next sessions of subsidiary bodies, with a view to holding a substantive discussion at those sessions.

37. The SBSTA endorsed the proposed outline and approaches to be taken during the second compilation and synthesis of first national communications, as suggested by the secretariat in its document FCCC/SB/1996/1. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to explore ways to use tables in the compilation of policies and measures and to describe national circumstances, *inter alia*, national policy targets.

38. The SBSTA took note of preliminary data presented in document FCCC/SB/1996/1/Add.1 on projections of emissions of greenhouse gases for the year 2000 which indicate that many Annex I Parties will have to make additional efforts beyond those included in projections in order to return greenhouse gas emissions to base year levels by 2000, and stressed the need for more transparency in the assumptions made in these projections.

39. The SBSTA recalled decision 3/CP.1 (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1) requesting Annex I Parties to submit to the secretariat national inventory data for the period 1990-1993 and, where available, for 1994 by 15 April 1996, and encouraged these Parties to submit these data at an earlier date to facilitate preparation of the second compilation and synthesis report. It recognized that Annex I Parties with economies in transition may exercise a certain degree of flexibility based on Article 4.6 of the Convention regarding these submissions.

40. The SBSTA invited Annex I Parties to forward to the secretariat their suggestions related to presentation of inventory data on the land use change and forestry sector for years subsequent to 1990 and on projections in this sector, as well as on aggregating data on greenhouse gases sources and sinks from this and other sectors, by 1 April 1996.

41. The SBSTA will consider technical aspects of available in-depth review reports and of the second compilation and synthesis report at its third session in order to draw relevant conclusions to the attention of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate at its fourth session and to the COP at its second session.

42. The SBSTA took note of document FCCC/SBSTA/1996/3 and endorsed the proposals regarding the revisions to the Guidelines to ensure consistency with COP decisions. The SBSTA requested that revised guidelines contain more specific guidance on the description of policies and measures and their effects, projections and underlying assumptions and technological cooperation and transfer using, where feasible, standardized formats and tables. The revised guidelines should also take into account the issues referred to by the SBI in its conclusions on the transfer of technology. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit views on possible revisions to the Guidelines as suggested in document FCCC/SBSTA/1996/3 by 1 April 1996.

43. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a report suggesting possible revisions to the Guidelines, taking into account the submissions by Parties and the experience from the review process, for consideration at its third session, aiming at adopting revised guidelines at COP 2 in time for the preparation of second national communications by Annex I Parties.

44. The SBSTA, with a view to overcoming inconsistencies in the presentation of data on inventories, requested the secretariat to address issues such as temperature adjustments, electricity trade, bunker fuels, use of global warming potentials, land use change, and forestry in the documentation to be prepared for consideration by the SBSTA at its third session.

#### B. Extract from the provisional report of SBI

##### Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (agenda item 3 (a) of SBI 2)

#### Conclusions

45. The SBI took note of the progress report on in-depth reviews (FCCC/SB/1996/2) and of the in-depth review reports issued so far (FCCC/IDR.1/CZE, FCCC/IDR.1/SWE, FCCC/IDR.1/AUS, FCCC/IDR.1/USA, FCCC/IDR.1/CAN, FCCC/IDR.1/CHE). It expressed its appreciation to the Parties which have hosted in-depth review visits, to the Parties and intergovernmental organizations which have nominated experts and to the secretariat for the coordination of these reviews.

46. The SBI concluded that the progress report on in-depth reviews provides useful information on the implementation of the Convention. It also urged the Parties included in Annex I to the Convention that have not yet submitted national communications to do so in time for the second session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 2).
47. The SBI envisages that policy aspects of the available in-depth review reports are to be fully considered as a separate agenda item at its third session in order to draw relevant conclusions to the attention of the Ad Hoc Group on the Berlin Mandate at its fourth session and to the COP at its second session.
48. The SBI invited the SBSTA to consider ways of enhancing transparency, comparability and consistency through more specific reporting guidelines, including standard formats and tables, *inter alia*, for the description of policies and measures. In doing so, these Parties are invited to describe, to the extent possible, the specific effects expected from individual mitigation measures.
49. The SBI invited the SBSTA to analyse from a technical point of view reporting options on such issues as temperature adjustments, electricity trade, bunker fuels, use of global warming potentials and land use change and forestry to resolve inconsistencies in the reporting of inventories with the aim of enhancing comparability. It also invited the SBSTA to make relevant recommendations to the SBI.
50. The SBI endorsed the outline and approaches proposed for the second compilation and synthesis of first national communications, as described in document FCCC/SB/1996/1, and suggested that the presentation of policies and measures should highlight those that are innovative, successful and/or potentially replicable.
51. The SBI took note of preliminary data presented in document FCCC/SB/1996/1/Add.1 on projections of emissions of greenhouse gases for the year 2000 which indicate that many Annex I Parties will have to make additional efforts beyond those included in projections in order to return their greenhouse gas emissions not controlled by the Montreal Protocol to base year levels by 2000.
52. The SBI concluded that mechanisms should be explored to facilitate the exchange of experiences in carrying out national programmes to implement the Convention. In that context, the SBI requested the secretariat to convene an informal workshop, preferably in conjunction with the fourth session of the SBI, focusing the discussion on the implementation aspects of specific policies and measures taken by these Parties. This workshop could also present an opportunity to assess the results of the first cycle of in-depth reviews.

C. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention  
(agenda item 5 (b) of SBSTA 2)

Conclusions

53. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) recalled decisions 8/CP.1.

54. The SBSTA took note of document FCCC/SB/1996/3. It also noted with appreciation document FCCC/SB/1996/MISC.1/Add.1 containing the Position Paper of the Group of 77 and China on recommendations on guidelines and format for preparation of initial communications from non-Annex I Parties, which was developed on the basis of the workshop held on 26 February 1996.

55. The SBSTA considered document FCCC/SB/MISC.1/Add.1 the principal basis for the adoption of guidelines and format for preparation of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I. The SBSTA should continue consideration of the item in the subsequent session.

D. Extract from the provisional report of the SBI

Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention  
(agenda item 3 (b) of SBI 2)

Conclusions

56. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) recalled decisions 8/CP.1.

57. The SBI took note of document FCCC/SB/1996/3. It also noted with appreciation document FCCC/SB/1996/MISC.1/Add.1 containing the Position Paper of the Group of 77 and China on recommendations on guidelines and format for preparation of initial communications from non-Annex I Parties, which was developed on the basis of the workshop held on 26 February 1996.

58. The SBI considered document FCCC/SB/1996/MISC.1/Add.1 as the principal basis for the decision to adopt and implement guidelines and format for preparation of initial communications from Parties not included in Annex I. It also noted that the SBSTA would continue consideration of the item in the subsequent session.

59. The SBI noted the intention of non Annex I Parties to conduct a workshop, as a follow up to the earlier one, to address issues relating to implementation, and requested the secretariat to facilitate assistance in this regard, in accordance with Article 8.2.

60. The SBI recalled its conclusions on agenda item 4 (a).

61. The SBI invited Parties not included in Annex I to nominate national focal points for facilitating assistance for the preparation of the initial communications.

62. The SBI requested the secretariat to continue to facilitate assistance to Parties not included in Annex I, in accordance with Article 8.2, through organizing fora for the exchange of experiences and providing relevant information, including exchanges between Parties, on the preparation of initial communications, using the resources of the supplementary fund.

## V. TECHNOLOGY INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

### A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

#### Technology inventory and assessment (agenda item 7 of SBSTA 2)

#### Conclusions

63. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) considered the preparation of a technology inventory and assessment, as mentioned in decision 13/CP.1 of the Conference of the Parties (COP), and based its discussions on the initial report of the secretariat on this subject (FCCC/SBSTA/1996/4). It recalled the division of labour between the SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) regarding technology issues as indicated in decision 6/CP.1 on the subsidiary bodies established by the Convention. It noted the statements of the Netherlands regarding the Climate Technology Initiative and the statement made by the representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization concerning a study of industrial technologies.

64. The SBSTA recognized that the identification of and information on technologies and know-how that could assist the Parties in the preparation of national plans would be particularly useful, and urged all Parties who have not already done so to provide the secretariat information and databases on environmentally sound and economically viable technologies and know-how conducive to mitigating and adapting to climate change, including information from the private sector when possible, and to continue to do so on a routine basis in the future.

65. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to continue its activities, in cooperation with other relevant organizations, related to the preparation of an inventory and assessment of environmentally sound and economically viable technologies and know-how conducive to mitigating and adapting to climate change, to take into consideration the activities of other United Nations agencies and intergovernmental organizations, and other relevant programmes and to use all means possible to communicate the information to Parties.

66. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to identify existing sources of, as well as gaps in, information concerning technology information centres, with a view to developing a plan for

setting up specialized technology information centres that could include, *inter alia*, sources of financing, preparation of comprehensive catalogues, dissemination of information and assessment of suitable technology. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to conduct a survey in order to identify needs of the Parties for information on technologies and know-how to mitigate and adapt to climate change, to prepare a programme of work, and to report on the progress on these for consideration at the third session of the SBSTA. Such a work programme could consider among its elements options for future development of a database and assessment of technology and should be elaborated in cooperation with other relevant United Nations agencies and other organizations and institutions. The SBSTA further requested the secretariat to prepare an initial catalogue of adaptation technologies and know-how including information on their costs, environmental impacts, implementation requirements, probable time frames for their introduction and utilization, and other characteristics for consideration by the SBSTA before the third session of the COP, and, on this matter, coordinate its activities with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

67. The SBSTA, in view of decision 13/CP.1, requested the secretariat to develop a paper for consideration by the SBSTA on information related to the terms of transfer of technology and know-how currently available.

68. The SBSTA further requested the secretariat to periodically inform the SBSTA about new information on technologies and know-how in the research and development stage that may be conducive to mitigating and adapting to climate change and activities aimed at increasing the diffusion and commercialization of such technologies and know-how.

## **VI. TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY**

### **A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBI**

#### Transfer of technology (agenda item 5 of SBI 2)

#### Conclusions

69. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) considered the initial progress report of the secretariat on concrete measures taken by Annex II Parties to the Convention with respect to their commitments to transfer technology and know-how, as mentioned in decision 13/CP.1 of the Conference of the Parties (COP), and based its discussion on the note by the secretariat on this subject (FCCC/SBI/1996/5).

70. The SBI took note of the conclusions of the SBSTA (see paragraphs 67-68 above) concerning the preparation of a paper on information regarding the terms of transfer of



technology and know-how, and stressed the need to give greater clarity and content in the preparation of this paper to the terms and mechanisms of technology transfer. It also urged the secretariat to give greater consideration to its activities related to the assessment and evaluation of technologies and options.

71. The SBI recognized the need to improve the comprehensiveness, comparability, and detail of information provided by Annex II Parties on the transfer of technology and know-how necessary to mitigate and facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. It also noted that decision 13/CP.1 urges other Parties to include in their communications, where possible, information on measures taken for the transfer of technology.

72. The SBI recognized the complementarity of the roles of the public and private sectors with regard to technology transfer. The SBI urged Annex II Parties to continue to take concrete steps to promote technology transfer. The SBI urged all Parties, in particular Annex II Parties, to improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in particular, and to support and promote the development of endogenous capacities and appropriate technology relevant to the objectives of the Convention, pursuant to the relevant articles of the Convention and decision 13/CP.1. The SBI agreed to provide continuous advice to improve the operational modalities for effective transfer of technology.

73. The SBI requested the SBSTA to prepare recommendations on the guidelines for national communications by Annex I Parties for consideration at the third session of the SBI. The SBI recommended that the modifications should aim to improve the comprehensiveness, comparability and detail of information provided in national communications and should reflect option 3 given in the secretariat document FCCC/SBI/1996/5 while noting the need for flexibility in reporting private sector activities.

74. The SBI further requested the secretariat to prepare a report, after consultations with relevant United Nations agencies and other organizations and institutions, on technology transfer cooperation by the private sector for consideration by the SBI, preferably in time for COP 3, but no later than COP 4.

75. The SBI invited Parties to submit comments on these subjects to the secretariat by 15 April, 1996 and requested the secretariat to prepare a compilation of views submitted by the Parties.

## **VII. ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY UNDER THE PILOT PHASE**

A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

Activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase  
(agenda item 6 of SBSTA 2)

Conclusions

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice:

76. Recalling decision 5/CP.1 of the Conference of Parties at its first session, establishing a pilot phase for activities implemented jointly and setting criteria for it, inter alia, that no credits shall accrue to any Party as a result of greenhouse gas emissions reduced or sequestered during the pilot phase from activities implemented jointly, and in particular the mandate given to the SBSTA, in coordination with SBI, to establish a reporting framework for activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase (FCCC/CP/1995/7/Add.1, decision 5/CP.1).

(a) Decides

(i) To adopt the initial reporting framework annexed to this decision.

(b) Invites

- (i) Parties to identify the relevant governmental authority/ministry authorized to accept, approve or endorse activities implemented jointly and to report to the COP through the secretariat.
- (ii) Parties to submit reports in accordance with the initial reporting framework on activities implemented jointly annexed to this conclusion.
- (iii) SBSTA and SBI, with the assistance of the secretariat to compile and synthesize information transmitted by the Parties in the form of a report which shall be considered annually by the COP, and based on this information, to develop suggestions for improving the initial reporting framework and for addressing methodological issues, as necessary.

Annex to conclusions on activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase

## Introduction

The initial framework for reporting must have a simple and transparent structure. It is expected that subsequent sessions of the COP and its subsidiary bodies could elaborate further on the framework for reporting, taking into account the information provided by the initial reports transmitted to the secretariat or comments expressed by Parties.

The nature of the information contained in the initial reports to be provided by Parties involved in AIJ will be relevant information for the evaluation of the ongoing pilot phase.

### INITIAL FRAMEWORK FOR REPORTING ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY

#### 1. Who reports?

Each national government of Parties involved in activities implemented jointly should report separately to the COP through the secretariat on a project by project basis unless participating Parties agree on a common report on a particular project. Any Party may report on national programmes for activities implemented jointly, for information purposes only.

If the Parties choose not to report jointly, the secretariat will not process information on that project until reports on that project from all Parties concerned, particularly developing country Parties, are transmitted to the secretariat.

#### 2. Frequency

Reports may be transmitted to the secretariat at any time and should be updated, if possible, preferably each year, unless participating Parties decide otherwise.

#### 3. Contents of the reports

- (a) Description of the project (type of the project, identification of all actors involved, institutional arrangements, actual costs to the extent possible, technical data, long-term viability of the project, location, lifetime, mutually agreed project assessment procedures, etc.);
- (b) Governmental acceptance, approval or endorsement;
- (c) Compatibility with and supportiveness of national economic development and socio-economic and environment priorities and strategies;
- (d) Benefits derived from the AIJ project;

(e) Calculation of the contribution of AIJ projects that bring about real, measurable and long-term environmental benefits related to the mitigation of climate change that would not have occurred in the absence of such activities;

(f) Additionality to financial obligations of Parties included in Annex-II of the Convention within the framework of the financial mechanism as well as to current official development assistance (ODA) flows;

(g) Contribution to capacity building, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and know-how to other Parties, particularly developing country Parties, to enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention. In this process, the developed country Parties shall support the development and enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies of developing country Parties;

(h) Additional comments if any including any practical experience gained or technical difficulties, effects, impacts or other obstacles encountered.

B. Extract from the provisional report of the SBI

Conclusions of the SBSTA on a reporting framework for activities  
implemented jointly under the pilot phase  
(agenda item 6 (a) of SBI 2)

Conclusions

77. On the basis of the proposals by the Chairman, the SBI adopted the following conclusions.

78. The SBI took note of the decision of the SBSTA to adopt the initial reporting framework for activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase.

79. The SBI also requested the secretariat to prepare a progress report on activities implemented jointly for its next session to be held immediately prior to the second session of the Conference of the Parties. Delegations were invited to submit information to the secretariat in accordance with the SBSTA decision for inclusion in the report by 1 April 1996.

80. The SBI noted that it will consider this issue again at its next session.

**VIII. ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL**

## ADVISORY PANEL(S)

### A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBSTA

#### Establishment of intergovernmental technical advisory panel(s) (agenda item 3 of SBSTA 2)

#### Conclusions

81. The SBSTA recognized that ITAPs had the potential to make an important contribution to the processes under the Convention and to the implementation of the Convention by Parties, in particular by providing an opportunity to draw upon the broad range of expertise available in Parties. However, at this stage the SBSTA could not agree on the modalities for such a panel, or panels, and decided to request guidance from the next session of the COP on this issue; in this context it requested its Chairman to report to the COP.

82. The SBSTA also recognized that it may be beneficial to develop a roster of experts to assist the Convention process in the conduct of its work. It requested the Parties to submit comments on the concept of a roster, including the disciplines that such a roster might cover by 1 April 1996. It requested the secretariat to compile the comments and to prepare a paper on this subject.

## IX. FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

### A. Extract from the provisional report of the SBI

#### Matters relating to the financial mechanism (agenda item 4 (a) of SBI 2)

#### Conclusions

83. On the basis of the proposals by the Chairman, the SBI adopted the following conclusions.

84. The SBI considered document FCCC/SBI/1996/3 and took note of the information contained therein on relevant action taken by the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), including the adoption by the Council of the GEF of its operational strategy.

85. The SBI concluded that:

(a) The GEF, as the interim operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its implementing agencies should provide expeditious and timely support under Articles 4.3 and 12.5 for the preparation of national communications by developing country Parties in accordance with Article 12.1;

(b) The GEF, as the interim operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in that connection, should consider country-specific needs but could also consider approaches which may be used for several countries with similar needs upon request, and take into account that the preparation of national communications is a continuing process. In this regard, the guidelines to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties (COP) on the preparation of the national communications of non-Annex I Parties should be taken fully into account;

(c) The GEF, as the interim operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in this initial period, should implement enabling activities consistent with the guidance provided to it by the COP and expedite the disbursement of resources to meet the agreed full costs of such activities in accordance with Article 4.3, in particular the initial and subsequent preparation of national communications of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.

Technical and financial cooperation: progress report  
(agenda item 4 (b) of SBI 2)

Conclusions

86. On the basis of the proposals by the Chairman, the SBI adopted the following conclusions.

87. The SBI considered document FCCC/SBI/1996/4 and took note of the information contained therein on secretariat activities in the area of technical and financial cooperation, in particular its efforts on CC:INFO, CC:FORUM and CC:TRAIN.

88. The SBI concluded that:

(a) Services provided by the secretariat in this area should be recognized, in particular those promoting the exchange of information through CC:INFO and those aiming at the coordination of activities and the effective utilization of resources for support to the preparation of national communications through CC:FORUM.

(b) The secretariat should prepare a report for the next session of the SBI on possibilities for strengthening and expanding these activities in support of the preparation of the national communications of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.

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Annex

INITIAL LIST OF ITEMS ON WHICH THE IPCC COULD PROVIDE INPUT TO THE SBSTA

All available research results in the open literature relevant to all SBSTA items have been addressed in either the Second Assessment Report or the IPCC Special Report on Radiative Forcing (IPCC 1994). All SBSTA items will be covered in the Third Assessment Report. It is recognized that particular emphasis would be placed on the technical papers and on regional scenarios of climate change, regional impacts of climate change and response measures, methodological and technological aspects of technology transfer, and adaptation measures.

SBSTA Issue	Description of Activity	IPCC Product	Remarks
Regional scenarios of climate change	Recommendations on scenario development in 1996/1997 for application in impacts assessments	Workshop and Special Report*	Workshop in 2nd half 1996; Special Report to be determined by IPCC-XII
Regional impacts of climate change	a) Integration of sectoral impact assessments in Second Assessment Report, with focus on vulnerabilities, regional aspects, and critical zones, with consideration of issues related to Article 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 b) Development of vulnerability indicators	a) Technical Paper** b) Special Report*	a) Late 1996/early 1997 b) To be determined by IPCC-XII
Full scientific assessments***	A full assessment of the science, impacts, adaptation, mitigation, economic and social aspects of climate change	Third Assessment Report	Third Assessment Report (2000)
Detection of climate change	Research on this topic to be monitored and assessed by IPCC	Special Report*	To be determined by IPCC-XII
Emissions inventory methodologies****	IPCC will continue preparation of information for Phase II Guidelines, in cooperation with, <i>inter alia</i> , the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, particularly revisions for CH <sub>4</sub>	Revised IPCC Guidelines on GHG inventories****	Three workshops planned in 1st/2nd quarters 1996; Adoption**** at IPCC-XII

\* Initiation of all Special Reports is subject to approval by the IPCC at its XIIth session. Special Reports will follow the full IPCC review and approval procedures and require approximately 18 months for preparation and approval.

\*\* Technical papers will require approximately 6-9 months for preparation, review, and release by the Bureau of the IPCC.

\*\*\* Already included in the IPCC programme of work for 1996-1997

\*\*\*\* Using previous IPCC peer review process.

SBSTA Issue	Description of Activity	IPCC Product	Remarks
Methodological and technological aspects of technology transfer	Synthesis of information in Second Assessment Report, to assess experience on such issues as (i) types of transfer, technology evaluation, and options; (ii) sectors targeted; (iii) role of participants (e.g., Governments, private sector, IGOs, NGOs); (iv) approaches to promoting cooperation; (v) issues related to capacity building	Technical Paper**	Early 1997
Evaluation of technologies	Assessment of major constraints to innovative, state-of-the-art, technologies and promising approaches for overcoming them	Technical Paper** Special Report*	Early 1997 To be determined by IPCC-XII
Modelling of stabilization scenarios towards addressing Article 2	a) Scenarios and pathways for global stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations to meet a range of possible targets for rates of temperature and sealevel change and absolute temperature and sealevel change, and economic considerations	Technical Paper**	Early 1997
Implications of emission limitations	a) Assess the economic impacts on all Parties, including non-Annex I Parties, of any proposed new commitments to be undertaken by Annex I Parties b) Assess the implications of different emissions limitation proposals including any proposed new commitments to be undertaken by Annex I Parties on projected temperature increases, sealevel rise and other changes in climate	Technical Paper** Special Report*	Early 1997 To be determined by IPCC- XII
Adaptation measures	Adaptation options, enhancing resilience of systems, and costs of adaptation	Workshop (1997), Special Report*	To be determined by IPCC-XII
Integrated assessment modeling	Integrated assessment modeling including land-use considerations, with a focus on meeting the needs of and building capacity in developing countries	Workshop(s) Special Report*	1996/1997 To be determined by IPCC-XII
Simple climate models	Status of simple climate models	Technical Paper**	1996/1997
Impacts of response measures	Identification of technical, socio-economic, and environmental aspects of Article 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10	Special Report*	To be determined by IPCC-XII