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SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Eighteenth session

Bonn, 4–13 June 2003

Agenda item 9

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS**

**Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair**

1. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), at its eighteenth session, took note of the information on arrangements for intergovernmental meetings contained in documents FCCC/SBI/2003/2 and FCCC/SBI/2003/3, and the views expressed by Parties at that session.

**(a) Ninth session of the Conference of the Parties**

2. The SBI expressed its thanks to the Government of Italy for its generous offer to host the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9). The SBI noted with appreciation the preparations being made by the Government of Italy and the secretariat to convene COP 9 in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003.

3. The SBI considered arrangements for COP 9 in the event that the Kyoto Protocol had not yet entered into force. The SBI recommended that round-table discussions be the mode for exchanges during the high-level segment. The SBI requested its Chair to transmit to the members of the Bureau a list of possible topics for the above-mentioned round-table discussions proposed by Parties during consideration of this item.

4. The SBI also considered arrangements for COP 9 in the event that the Kyoto Protocol had entered into force in time for the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 1) to be convened in conjunction with COP 9. The SBI recommended that national statements be the mode for exchanges during a joint high-level segment of the COP and the COP/MOP.

5. The SBI endorsed the dates of 10 to 11 December 2003 for the high-level segment to be attended by ministers and other heads of delegation.

6. The SBI invited the Bureau of COP 8, in collaboration with the secretariat, the President-designate of COP 9 and the Government of Italy, to give further consideration to the details and format of the high-level segment.

7. The SBI invited the Executive Secretary to take note of views expressed by Parties on the possible elements of the provisional agenda for COP 9.

**(b) Arrangements for the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

8. The SBI recognized that the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP) are legally distinct with separate agendas.

9. The SBI recommended that arrangements for COP/MOP 1, to be convened in conjunction with the first session of the COP that is scheduled after the date of entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, should take into consideration:

(a) That the session of the SBI and the session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) would be convened in conjunction with the sessions of the COP and the COP/MOP, and that meetings of the SBI and the SBSTA would be held in parallel;

(b) That, in order to clarify the capacity in which the SBI or the SBSTA is acting, items relating to the Convention and items relating to the Kyoto Protocol should be clearly identified on the agenda of the SBI and on the agenda of SBSTA and during the meetings of these bodies;

(c) That the meetings of the COP and of the COP/MOP would be organized so as to ensure that similar or related items on their agendas would be dealt with in proximity, or jointly if the Parties to the Convention and the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol so decide;

(d) That the meetings of the SBI and the meetings of the SBSTA would be organized so as to ensure that similar or related items on each of their agendas relating to both the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol would be dealt with in proximity, or together if the Parties to the Convention and the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol so decide;

(e) That joint meetings of the COP and COP/MOP 1 would be convened during a joint high-level segment attended by ministers and other heads of delegations, on the understanding:

(i) That there would be one speaker's list and each Party, including Parties to both the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, would speak only once, and

(ii) That decisions would not be taken during such meetings;

(f) That the seating arrangements for meetings of the COP would be used for meetings of the COP/MOP and during the high-level segment.

10. The SBI invited the Executive Secretary to take note of paragraphs 8 and 9 above in preparing the provisional agendas of the sessions of the COP, COP/MOP 1, the SBI and the SBSTA, in accordance with rule 9 of the draft rules of procedure of the COP being applied, and to identify specific items that might benefit from joint consideration.

11. The SBI requested the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to continue to make arrangements for the organization of the sessions of the COP, COP/MOP 1, and the subsidiary bodies accordingly.

12. The SBI decided to forward the draft decision contained in document FCCC/SBI/2003/L.3/Add.1 to the COP for adoption at its ninth session.

(c) **Future sessional periods**

13. The SBI noted that the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) would be convened during the sessional period 29 November to 10 December 2004. The SBI also noted that the secretariat had not received any offers from Parties to host COP 10. It urged Parties to come forward with offers to host COP 10, so that an appropriate decision could be taken at COP 9.

14. The SBI took note of the proposed dates for the 2008 sessional periods (2 to 13 June 2008 and 1 to 12 December 2008) contained in document FCCC/SBI/2003/2. The SBI recommended the proposed dates for adoption by the COP at its ninth session.

15. The SBI took note of information provided by the secretariat on conference facilities and steps taken to regularize booking arrangements with the Maritim hotel, including an agreement on cancellation procedures and deadlines.

16. The SBI noted that the Convention process faces increasing difficulties with regard to agenda management, and that the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol would further intensify the schedule of formal and informal meetings.

17. The SBI invited the Chair of the SBI and the Chair of the SBSTA to initiate further consideration of the organization of future sessional periods, with a view to ensuring that the workload of the subsidiary bodies can be handled as efficiently and effectively as possible within the time available at a session, while assuring a coherent and responsive approach to issues. The SBI requested Parties to submit by 1 December 2003 their views on this issue and agreed to continue its discussion at its twentieth session.

(d) **Effective participation in the Convention process**

18. The SBI underlined the importance of facilitating effective participation of Parties in the Convention process.

19. The SBI recognized the participation of observers as a fundamental feature of the Convention process. The SBI welcomed the continuing effort of the chairs of the subsidiary bodies, the chairs of limited membership bodies and the secretariat to promote participation of observer organizations in intersessional workshops. The SBI agreed that the use of the secretariat web site to improve the timeliness of information dispersal and the transparency of the process was valuable.

20. The SBI invited the chairs of the subsidiary bodies, the chairs of limited membership bodies and the secretariat to continue their efforts to facilitate effective participation in the process and promote transparency. The SBI requested the secretariat to report on these efforts at its twentieth session for its further consideration.

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