



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-ninth session

Warsaw, 11–16 November 2013

Agenda item 8

Research and systematic observation

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted with appreciation the statements delivered by the representatives of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).¹
2. The SBSTA also noted with appreciation the information provided by WMO on the developments regarding the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) and the outcome of the first session of the Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services (IBCS).² The SBSTA invited WMO to provide, at SBSTA 41, information on the outcome of the second session of the IBCS, to be held in November 2014.
3. The SBSTA also noted with appreciation the information provided by GCOS on its recent and planned activities³ and the role of GCOS, its sponsors⁴ and partners in strengthening observation networks and the provision of high-quality climate information and data, including in the implementation of the GFCS.
4. The SBSTA emphasized the continued need to secure funding to meet the essential needs for global climate observations under the Convention on a long-term basis.⁵
5. The SBSTA welcomed the contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the IPCC. The SBSTA noted that the IPCC will have released the contributions of Working Groups II and III to the AR5 by SBSTA 40 and the AR5

¹ The statements are available on the UNFCCC website at <<http://unfccc.int/7950.php>>.

² The submission by WMO to SBSTA 39 is available on the UNFCCC website at <<http://unfccc.int/7482.php>>.

³ The submission by GCOS to SBSTA 39 is available on the UNFCCC website at <<http://unfccc.int/7482.php>>.

⁴ The sponsors of GCOS are WMO, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Council for Science.

⁵ See also document FCCC/SBSTA/2010/13, paragraph 55.

Synthesis Report by SBSTA 41. It further noted the continued key importance of research and systematic observation to the work of the IPCC.

6. The SBSTA emphasized the importance of systematic observation for the UNFCCC process at large, including for advancing climate modelling at all scales and for decision-making on adaptation. It noted that there are still gaps in critical observational data, inter alia for the oceans, and in the networks in some parts of the world, especially in developing countries. The SBSTA affirmed the importance of historical data records, the need to enhance data rescue and digitization efforts and climate monitoring. It therefore urged Parties and relevant organizations to enhance capacity, collaboration and coordination in this area.

7. The SBSTA also noted that a workshop on systematic observation, organized in close collaboration with GCOS and its sponsors, could help to identify ways to strengthen systematic observation and to enhance related capacity in developing countries, in particular in support of adaptation planning.
