

Decision 13/CP.3

**Division of labour between the Subsidiary Body for Implementation
and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice**

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 9 and 10 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recalling also its decision at its second session that the question of the division of labour between the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation should be taken up by the Conference of the Parties at its third session on the basis of recommendations made to it by the Chairmen of the two subsidiary bodies,¹

Having considered the recommendations made by the Chairmen, through the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, as included in the reports of their sixth sessions,²

Desiring to elaborate further the division of labour between the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation,

1. *Reaffirms* that the division of labour is governed by Articles 9 and 10 of the Convention, and by decision 6/CP.1 and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Recalls* that, as indicated in decision 6/CP.1, the role of the subsidiary bodies can be broadly characterized as follows:

(a) The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will be the link between the scientific, technical and technological assessments and the information provided by competent international bodies, and the policy-oriented needs of the Conference of the Parties;

(b) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation will develop recommendations to assist the Conference of the Parties in its review and assessment of the implementation of the Convention and in the preparation and implementation of its decisions;

¹ FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1, section III, 4.

² FCCC/SBSTA/1997/6 and FCCC/SBI/1997/16.

3. *Decides* that the consideration of issues which are pertinent to both bodies should take place in a way which is efficient in the use of time during meetings, in order to avoid confusion and to reduce the overall workload. Therefore, in general, one of the bodies will take the overall responsibility in considering an issue. If necessary, it will request adequate and specific inputs from the other body. Where overall responsibility is not assigned, agendas should be organized to ensure that the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation avoid dealing with such issues in parallel sessions. On issues where this is not possible, consideration should be given to holding ad hoc joint sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation. On this basis, the provisions above are clarified as follows:

National communications from Parties

- (a) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation will have the overall responsibility for:
- (i) Developing guidelines on the processes for consideration of national communications;
 - (ii) Considering the information contained in national communications, other relevant documentation and compilation and synthesis reports, with a view to assisting the Conference of the Parties in undertaking its tasks under Article 7.2(e) of the Convention;
- (b) In co-operation with the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will have responsibility for:
- (i) Developing guidelines for the provision of comparable information, including all related methodological issues;
 - (ii) Considering, upon the request of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, as appropriate, national communications and other relevant documentation, such as technical papers, with the aim of, *inter alia*, verifying methodologies used and making recommendations on their refinement, preparing scientific assessments on the effects of measures taken in the implementation of the Convention, reviewing projections and their assumptions, and assessing the comprehensiveness and effectiveness of mitigation and adaptation measures;

Development and transfer of technology

- (c) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation will, with inputs from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice as appropriate, have responsibilities for

assisting the Conference of the Parties in the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention with respect to the development and transfer of technology;

(d) As stipulated in the Convention, and as decided by the Conference of the Parties in decision 6/CP.1, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will have responsibility for providing advice on all scientific, technological and methodological aspects of the development and transfer of technology;

Consultations with non-governmental organizations

(e) Taking into account the competence of each subsidiary body, the Subsidiary Body for Implementation will have overall responsibility for all policy questions and relevant inputs related to issues dealing with consultation with non-governmental organizations, as appropriate;

(f) Should the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice or any other subsidiary body feel that non-governmental organizations could provide relevant inputs on an item being considered, that body could seek and consider such inputs;

(g) Provisional accreditation of individual non-governmental organizations will be the responsibility of the body concerned;

Activities implemented jointly

(h) The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will have the responsibility for:

(i) Developing the framework for reporting, including consideration of scientific, technical and methodological aspects of the reports;

(ii) Preparing a synthesis report of activities for the Conference of the Parties;

(i) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation will have the responsibility for assisting the Conference of the Parties in reviewing the progress of the activities implemented jointly under the pilot phase, on the basis of inputs by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice;

Research and systematic observation

(j) In accordance with Article 5 of the Convention, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will have the overall responsibility for issues related to research and systematic observation, drawing, where necessary, upon the Subsidiary Body for Implementation. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will also play a co-ordinating role in such activities related to climate change relevant to the implementation of the Convention;

(k) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation, with inputs from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice as appropriate, will have the responsibility for assisting the Conference of the Parties in the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention with respect to research and systematic observation;

Education, training and public awareness

(l) In further clarification of decision 6/CP.1, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will have the overall responsibility for providing advice on educational, training and public awareness programmes, as well as public access to information. When considering such issues, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice will draw upon, *inter alia*, relevant international organizations;

(m) The Subsidiary Body for Implementation, with inputs from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice as appropriate, will have responsibility for assisting the Conference of the Parties in the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention with respect to education, training, and public awareness.

*2nd plenary meeting
1 December 1997*