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Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

**Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and
Technological Advice on its thirty-sixth session,
held in Bonn from 14 to 25 May 2012**

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I. Opening of the session

(Agenda item 1)

1. The thirty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) was held at the Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany, from 14 to 25 May 2012.
2. The Chair of the SBSTA, Mr. Richard Muyungi (United Republic of Tanzania), opened the session and welcomed all Parties and observers. He also welcomed Mr. Collin Beck (Solomon Islands) as Rapporteur.

II. Organizational matters

(Agenda item 2)

A. Adoption of the agenda

(Agenda item 2(a))

3. At its 1st meeting, on 14 May, the SBSTA considered a note by the Executive Secretary containing the provisional agenda and annotations (FCCC/SBSTA/2012/1).
4. At the same meeting, the SBSTA adopted the agenda contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/1, with an amendment to the title of item 10(b) as follows:
 1. Opening of the session.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Organization of the work of the session;
 - (c) Election of officers other than the Chair;
 - (d) Election of replacement officers.
 3. Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.
 4. Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.
 5. Development and transfer of technologies and report of the Technology Executive Committee.
 6. Research and systematic observation.
 7. Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures.
 8. Matters relating to Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol.
 9. Issues relating to agriculture.
 10. Methodological issues under the Convention:
 - (a) Work programme on a common reporting format for the "UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties";

- (b) Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews for developed country Parties;
 - (c) General guidelines for domestic measurement, reporting and verification of domestically supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties;
 - (d) Emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport;
 - (e) Common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of greenhouse gases;
 - (f) Greenhouse gas data interface.
11. Methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol:
- (a) Carbon dioxide capture and storage in geological formations as clean development mechanism project activities;
 - (b) Implications of the inclusion of reforestation of lands with forest in exhaustion as afforestation and reforestation clean development mechanism project activities;
 - (c) Land use, land-use change and forestry under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol and under the clean development mechanism;
 - (d) Implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol.
12. Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation of climate change.
13. Cooperation with other international organizations.
14. Other matters.
15. Report on the session.

5. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by representatives of 10 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of the Umbrella Group, one on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), one on behalf of the African States, one on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group, one on behalf of the European Union and its member States, one on behalf of the least developed countries (LDCs) and one on behalf of the Coalition for Rainforest Nations. Statements were also made on behalf of environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the constituency of farmers.

B. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2(b))

6. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st meeting, at which the Chair drew attention to the proposed programme of work posted on the UNFCCC website. On a proposal by the Chair, the SBSTA agreed to proceed on the basis of that programme of work.

C. Election of officers other than the Chair

(Agenda item 2(c))

7. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st meeting and at its 3rd meeting, held on 25 May.

8. At the 3rd meeting, the Chair informed Parties that agreement had been reached among regional groups on the nomination for the Vice-Chair and the Rapporteur of the SBSTA, and the Chair proposed the nominees for election. The SBSTA elected Mr. Narcis Paulin Jeler (Romania), representing the Eastern European States, as its Vice-Chair. Mr. Jeler will serve for a term of one year. The SBSTA re-elected Mr. Collin Beck (Solomon Islands), representing the small island developing States, as its Rapporteur. Mr. Beck will serve for a second term of one year.

D. Election of replacement officers

(Agenda item 2(d))

9. The elected Vice-Chair and Rapporteur represent Parties to both the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol. Consequently, no election of replacement officers was held.

III. Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

(Agenda item 3)

1. Proceedings

10. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.1. Statements were made by representatives of two Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States.

11. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed that the Chair would consult with Parties on this issue and present draft conclusions to the SBSTA at its 3rd meeting. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

12. The SBSTA welcomed the report on the progress made in the implementation of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change since its thirty-fifth session.²

13. The SBSTA took note of the work being carried out by the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, inter alia on further enhancing the outreach of the Nairobi work programme and encouraged the secretariat to continue its efforts. The SBSTA also noted the engagement and contribution provided by Nairobi work programme partner organizations.³

14. The SBSTA recalled decision 6/CP.17, whereby the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the SBSTA to reconsider, at its thirty-eighth session, the work areas of the Nairobi work programme with a view to making recommendations to the COP at its nineteenth session on how best to support the objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

¹ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.4.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.1.

³ There were 251 Nairobi work programme partner organizations as at 22 May 2012.

This process would further inform the organization of potential future areas of work that could also support the scientific and technical work under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, as appropriate.⁴

15. The SBSTA also recalled decision 6/CP.17, whereby the COP invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 17 September 2012, their views on potential future areas of work of the Nairobi work programme.⁵

IV. Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

(Agenda item 4)

1. Proceedings

16. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it documents FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.1 and Add.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.9. Statements were made by representatives of three Parties, including one on behalf of the Congo Basin countries.⁶

17. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this item in a contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Peter Graham (Canada) and Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines). At the 3rd meeting, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions⁷ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

18. The SBSTA took note of decisions 2/CP.13, 4/CP.15, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 12/CP.17 in its consideration of methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

19. The SBSTA took note of the views submitted by Parties⁸ on issues identified in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II, in particular to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and on robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems as referred to in paragraph 71(c) of the same decision. It also took note of the views submitted by admitted observer organizations.⁹

20. The SBSTA continued its consideration of methodological guidance relating to modalities for a national forest monitoring system as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71(c), and for measuring, reporting and verifying as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix II, paragraph (c), using the draft text contained in annex I to document FCCC/SBSTA/2011/5 as a basis and taking into account the issues identified in decision

⁴ Decision 6/CP.17, paragraph 1.

⁵ Decision 6/CP.17, paragraph 2.

⁶ Burundi, the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Congo, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe.

⁷ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.9/Rev.1.

⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.1 and Add.1.

⁹ Submissions from intergovernmental organizations are available at <<http://unfccc.int/3714>>. Submissions from non-governmental organizations are available at <<http://unfccc.int/3689>>.

1/CP.16, appendix II, and the views submitted by Parties as referred to in paragraph 19 above.

21. The SBSTA agreed to continue its work on methodological guidance relating to modalities for a national forest monitoring system as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71(c), and for measuring, reporting and verifying, as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix II, paragraph (c), on the basis of annex I, which contains elements for a possible draft decision on these matters, with the aim of completing this work at its thirty-seventh session and preparing any recommendations for a draft decision on these matters for consideration and adoption by the COP at its eighteenth session.

22. The SBSTA initiated consideration of issues relating to drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, taking into account decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II, paragraph (a), and the views of Parties and admitted observer organizations referred to in paragraph 19 above. It agreed to continue its work on the issues identified in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II, in particular on how to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, including consideration of social and economic aspects in developing countries at the national level, at its thirty-seventh session.

23. The SBSTA noted the request by the COP in decision 12/CP.17, paragraphs 5 and 6, to consider the timing and the frequency of the presentations of the summary of information on how all of the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are being addressed and respected and to consider the need for further guidance to ensure transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness in the presentation of the summary of information. It agreed to continue consideration of this request at its thirty-seventh session with a view to concluding its consideration of this matter at its thirty-ninth session.

24. The SBSTA, in recalling decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 15, agreed to initiate work on developing guidance for the technical assessment of the proposed forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels at its thirty-seventh session, with the aim of reporting to the COP at its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions on progress made, including any recommendations for a draft decision on this matter.

25. The SBSTA recognized that further work on methodological guidance may be needed pending the outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention.

26. The SBSTA recognized that Parties aiming to undertake the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, could consider the adaptation needs of the country concerned.

V. Development and transfer of technologies and report of the Technology Executive Committee

(Agenda item 5)

1. Proceedings

27. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SB/2012/1.

28. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this item together with Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) agenda item 12(a) in a joint contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Carlos Fuller (Belize) and Mr. Zitouni Ould-Dada (United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland). At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Fuller reported on these consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁰ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

29. The SBSTA and the SBI welcomed the report on the linkage modalities and the rolling workplan of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) for 2012–2013.¹¹

30. The SBSTA and the SBI also welcomed the rolling workplan of the TEC for 2012–2013, as set out in annex I to the report referred to in paragraph 29 above, and encouraged the TEC to advance the implementation of this workplan. The SBSTA and the SBI encouraged the TEC to undertake the short-term activities of this plan as a matter of priority and welcomed the organization of thematic dialogues, including one on enabling environments and barriers to technology development and transfer, at its next meeting.

31. The SBSTA and the SBI noted that the TEC has structured its workplan around the following three areas in order to prioritize its work: activities mandated by the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Durban, South Africa, in 2011; short-term activities to begin in 2012; and medium-term activities to begin in 2013.

32. The SBSTA and the SBI also noted the initial ideas of the TEC on its modalities on linkages with other relevant institutional arrangements under and outside the Convention, as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 125, and developed by the TEC in response to decision 4/CP.17. The SBSTA and the SBI further noted that the nature of such linkages may evolve over time, recognizing that a number of institutional arrangements are materializing pursuant to decisions taken at the seventeenth session of the COP and that some institutional arrangements have been asked to collaborate with the TEC, as referred to in decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 17, and that some institutional arrangements have been asked to develop mechanisms to draw upon appropriate expert and technical advice, including from the relevant thematic bodies established under the Convention, as appropriate.

33. The SBSTA and the SBI invited the TEC to further elaborate and fine-tune its initial ideas on modalities on linkages with the institutional arrangements under and outside the Convention as set out in annex II of the report referred to in paragraph 29 above.

34. The SBSTA and the SBI noted that the TEC will consult with the relevant institutional arrangements, once they become operational, to seek their views and mutual agreement on the proposed linkage modalities. The SBSTA and the SBI also noted that the TEC will report on the results of its consultations with these relevant institutional arrangements on these modalities in its report on activities and performance for 2012, through the subsidiary bodies, for consideration by the COP at its eighteenth session.

35. The SBSTA recalled the conclusions¹² of its thirty-fifth session requesting the secretariat, in collaboration with interested organizations, to organize workshops, subject to the availability of resources, on technology needs assessments (TNAs) in 2012 and noted that the United Nations Environment Programme, in collaboration with the secretariat, plans to organize a workshop on TNAs in the second half of 2012. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to report on the outcomes of this workshop and to make the report available to the SBSTA for consideration at its thirty-seventh session.

¹⁰ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.12.

¹¹ FCCC/SB/2012/1.

¹² FCCC/SBSTA/2011/5, paragraph 31.

VI. Research and systematic observation

(Agenda item 6)

1. Proceedings

36. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it documents FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.2 and Add.1 and 2, FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.3 and FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.4. Statements were made by representatives of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

37. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this item in informal consultations, co-facilitated by Mr. Stefan Roesner (Germany) and Mr. David Lesolle (Botswana). In addition, a research dialogue was held on 19 May.¹³ At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Lesolle reported on these consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁴ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

38. The SBSTA took note of the views of Parties and of the progress made in developing draft conclusions under this agenda item.

39. The SBSTA agreed to continue its consideration of this agenda item at its thirty-seventh session on the basis of the draft text contained in annex II.

VII. Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures

(Agenda item 7)

1. Proceedings

40. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings.

41. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this item jointly with agenda item 11 of the SBI in a joint SBI/SBSTA forum co-chaired by the Chair of the SBSTA, Mr. Muyungi, and the Chair of the SBI, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow (Poland). It also agreed to consider, at this session, this item jointly with agenda item 8.

42. At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Muyungi reported on the forum. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁵ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

43. The SBSTA and the SBI welcomed the discussion at the first meeting of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures, and the work on the modalities for the operationalization of the work programme, in accordance with decision 8/CP.17.

44. The SBSTA and the SBI agreed to implement the work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures as contained in annex III, under the guidance of the Chairs of the SBSTA and the SBI.

45. The SBSTA and the SBI requested the secretariat to support, under the guidance of the Chairs of the SBSTA and the SBI, the implementation of the work programme.

¹³ For further information on the SBSTA 36 research dialogue, see <<http://unfccc.int/6896.php>>.

¹⁴ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.17.

¹⁵ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.18–FCCC/SBI/2012/L.25.

46. The SBSTA and the SBI invited relevant organizations and other stakeholders to participate in the activities of the work programme contained in annex III.

VIII. Matters relating to Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 8)

Proceedings

47. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. A statement was made by a representative of one Party.

48. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider, at this session, this item jointly with agenda item 7 and agenda item 11 of the SBI in a joint SBI/SBSTA forum.

49. At the same meeting, the SBSTA also agreed that the SBSTA Chair, Mr. Muyungi, and the SBI Chair, Mr. Chruszczow, would undertake consultations with interested Parties on how to take up this item at the next session.

50. At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Muyungi reported on the forum and the SBSTA considered and adopted the conclusions presented in paragraphs 43–46 above. At the same meeting, the SBSTA agreed to continue, at its thirty-seventh session, consultations on how to take up this item.

IX. Issues relating to agriculture

(Agenda item 9)

1. Proceedings

51. The SBSTA considered this item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.6 and Add.1–3. Statements were made by representatives of two Parties, including one on behalf of the LDCs.

52. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this item in a contact group, chaired by the Chair of the SBSTA. At the 3rd meeting, the SBSTA Chair reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁶ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

53. The SBSTA initiated, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 75, an exchange of views on issues relating to agriculture and agreed to continue consideration of this agenda item at its thirty-seventh session.

¹⁶ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.19.

X. Methodological issues under the Convention

(Agenda item 10)

A. Work programme on a common reporting format for the “UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties”

(Agenda item 10(a))

1. Proceedings

54. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings.

55. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in a contact group, co-chaired by Ms. Helen Plume (New Zealand) and Mr. Qiang Liu (China). At the 3rd meeting, Ms. Plume reported on the contact group’s consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁷ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

56. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the work programme on a common tabular format for electronic reporting of information (hereinafter referred to as the common tabular format) in accordance with the “UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties” as contained in annex I to decision 2/CP.17 (hereinafter referred to as the reporting guidelines) with a view to the COP, at its eighteenth session, adopting the format.

57. The SBSTA also acknowledged that, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, developed country Parties shall use the reporting guidelines for the preparation of the first biennial reports, taking into account their national circumstances, and shall submit their first biennial reports to the secretariat by 1 January 2014.

58. The SBSTA agreed that the common tabular format will include tables for information specified in paragraphs 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 22 and 23 of the reporting guidelines. It may also include tables for information specified in paragraphs, inter alia, 13, 19 and 24 of the reporting guidelines.

59. The SBSTA also agreed that the work programme on a common tabular format mandated by decision 2/CP.17 should include the submission of views from Parties, which would be compiled into a miscellaneous document, the preparation of a synthesis report of these submissions and the organization of a workshop and the preparation of a workshop report.

60. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit, based on the reporting guidelines, their views, by 13 August 2012, on the common tabular format mentioned in paragraph 58 above.

61. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to compile the submissions from Parties into a miscellaneous document and to prepare a synthesis report of Parties’ submissions as an input to the workshop mentioned in paragraph 62 below.

62. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a workshop on a common tabular format in October 2012 and to prepare a workshop report, for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

63. The SBSTA agreed to continue, at its thirty-seventh session, its consideration of a common tabular format, taking into account the views submitted by Parties referred to in

¹⁷ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.11.

paragraph 60 above, the synthesis of these views referred to in paragraph 61 above and the workshop report referred to in paragraph 62 above.

64. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications, as provided by the secretariat, to implement the actions requested in paragraphs 61 and 62 above.

65. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

B. Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews for developed country Parties

(Agenda item 10(b))

1. Proceedings

66. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings.

67. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in a contact group, co-chaired by Ms. Plume and Mr. Qiang Liu. At the 3rd meeting, Ms. Plume reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions¹⁸ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

68. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews, for developed country Parties (hereinafter referred to as the review guidelines), with a view to completing this work by the nineteenth session of the COP.

69. The SBSTA acknowledged that in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, biennial reports from developed country Parties are due on 1 January 2014 and that the first round of international assessment and review should commence two months after the submission of the first round of biennial reports.

70. The SBSTA also acknowledged that Parties included in Annex I to the Convention (Annex I Parties) are requested to submit their sixth national communications by 1 January 2014, and to submit their annual national inventories using the revised "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual inventories"¹⁹ in their 2015 annual submissions.

71. The SBSTA agreed that in revising the review guidelines, Parties should take into account experience with the reporting and review of information under the Convention and the need to have a cost-effective, efficient and practical review process that does not impose an excessive burden on Parties or the secretariat.

72. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper summarizing the current review processes under the Convention and the secretariat's experience with coordinating reviews of national communications and annual greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories of Annex I Parties for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

¹⁸ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.13.

¹⁹ FCCC/SBSTA/2006/9.

73. The SBSTA invited Parties to submit their views, by 15 September 2012, on the elements of the work programme referred to in paragraph 68 above and on the timeline of proposed activities, as well as on the key elements of the revision of the review guidelines for the review of biennial reports from developed country Parties and national communications, including national GHG inventories, from Annex I Parties, taking into consideration experience from current review practices.

74. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis paper of Parties' submissions as an input to the discussion by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

75. The SBSTA agreed, given the need to complete the work by the COP at its nineteenth session, to further consider, at its thirty-seventh session, the work programme on the revision of review guidelines, including the organization of technical workshops.

76. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications, as provided by the secretariat, to implement the actions requested in paragraphs 72 and 74 above.

77. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

C. General guidelines for domestic measurement, reporting and verification of domestically supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties

(Agenda item 10(c))

1. Proceedings

78. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings.

79. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in a contact group, co-chaired by Ms. Plume and Mr. Qiang Liu. At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Qiang Liu reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions²⁰ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

80. The SBSTA, in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 37, initiated its consideration of the development of general guidelines for domestic measurement, reporting and verification of domestically supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties (hereinafter referred to as the guidelines).

81. The SBSTA agreed to continue the interactive exchange of views on the guidelines with a view to agreeing on the next steps at its thirty-seventh session.

D. Emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport

(Agenda item 10(d))

1. Proceedings

82. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 2nd meeting, held on 14 May, and at its 3rd meeting. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.7. Statements were made by representatives of 10 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the African States and

²⁰ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.15.

one on behalf of the European Union and its member States. A statement was also made by a representative of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

83. At its 2nd meeting, the SBSTA agreed that the Chair would consult with Parties on this issue and present draft conclusions to the SBSTA at its 3rd meeting. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions²¹ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

84. The SBSTA took note of the information received from and progress reported by the secretariats of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and IMO on their ongoing work on addressing emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport,²² and noted the views expressed by Parties on this information.

85. The SBSTA invited the secretariats of ICAO and IMO to continue to report, at future sessions of the SBSTA, on relevant work on this issue.

E. Common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of greenhouse gases

(Agenda item 10(c))

1. Proceedings

86. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.2. A statement was made by a representative of one Party.

87. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in informal consultations, facilitated by Mr. Michael Gytarsky (Russian Federation). At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Gytarsky reported on these consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions²³ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

88. The SBSTA continued its consideration of the common metrics used to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks (hereinafter referred to as common metrics) under the methodological issues under the Convention.

89. The SBSTA welcomed the report²⁴ on the workshop on common metrics, which focused on uncertainties, new and refined areas or metrics, policy goals, and the relationship between policy frameworks and metrics, held in Bonn on 3 and 4 April 2012, which was organized by the secretariat following a request made by the SBSTA at its thirty-fourth session.²⁵

90. The SBSTA acknowledged the relevance of the workshop and its report. The SBSTA expressed its appreciation to the representatives of IPCC working group I (WG I) and IPCC working group III (WG III) for providing information on the status of the work of these groups on common metrics and to the members of the scientific community that provided updated and relevant information on the scientific knowledge on common metrics.

²¹ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.14.

²² FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.7.

²³ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.5.

²⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.2.

²⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2011/2, paragraph 101.

91. The SBSTA noted that common metrics are being assessed by the IPCC in the context of its work on the Fifth Assessment Report and acknowledged the relevance of common metrics to climate change policy.

92. The SBSTA invited the IPCC to present its findings on common metrics from its Fifth Assessment Report at the fortieth session of the SBSTA. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize a special event for this purpose.

93. The SBSTA agreed to continue, at its fortieth session, its consideration of this agenda item.

94. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

F. Greenhouse gas data interface

(Agenda item 10(f))

1. Proceedings

95. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings.

96. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed that the Chair would consult with Parties on this issue and present draft conclusions to the SBSTA at its 3rd meeting. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions²⁶ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

97. The SBSTA welcomed the further improvements made by the secretariat to the GHG data interface, in particular the provision of the facility to calculate user-defined indicators, as well as the inclusion of information from the compilation and accounting database.

98. The SBSTA noted with concern that, due to a lack of resources, the secretariat has not yet implemented the request made by the SBSTA at its thirty-fourth session²⁷ to present data in the modules of the data interface, where applicable, in physical units in addition to carbon dioxide equivalent, and reiterated its request.

99. The SBSTA agreed to consider, at its thirty-eighth session, matters relating to the further development of the interface in order to accommodate relevant changes relating to the forthcoming use of the revised reporting guidelines²⁸ by Annex I Parties in their annual GHG inventory reporting, starting with the 2015 submission, subject to a final decision by the COP on the revised guidelines at its nineteenth session.

100. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

²⁶ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.7.

²⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2011/2, paragraph 84.

²⁸ "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part I: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual greenhouse gas inventories" (decision 15/CP.17, annex I).

XI. Methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 11)

A. Carbon dioxide capture and storage in geological formations as clean development mechanism project activities

(Agenda item 11(a))

1. Proceedings

101. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.8 and Add.1 and 2.

102. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in informal consultations, co-facilitated by Mr. Peer Stiansen (Norway) and Mr. Abias Moma Huongo (Angola). At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Stiansen reported on these consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions²⁹ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

103. The SBSTA took note of the views submitted by Parties³⁰ and admitted observer organizations, and the views expressed by Parties during its thirty-sixth session, on the following issues referred to in decision 10/CMP.7, paragraph 4:

(a) The eligibility of carbon dioxide capture and storage (CCS) project activities which involve the transport of carbon dioxide from one country to another or which involve geological storage sites that are located in more than one country;

(b) The establishment of a global reserve of certified emission reduction units for CCS project activities, in addition to the reserve referred to in decision 10/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 21(b).

104. The SBSTA agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at its thirty-seventh session.

105. The SBSTA invited Parties, intergovernmental organizations and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 13 August 2012, their views on the issues referred to in paragraph 103 above and requested the secretariat to compile the submissions into a miscellaneous document.

106. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper on the issue referred to in paragraph 103(a) above for its consideration at its thirty-seventh session. The paper should draw upon, inter alia, the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (known as the London Protocol), the IPCC *Special Report on Carbon Capture and Storage*, scientific research, the submissions referred to in paragraphs 103 and 105 above and the annex to decision 10/CMP.7, and should address issues such as the following:

(a) International law and frameworks relevant to CCS project activities which involve the transport of carbon dioxide from one country to another or which involve geological storage sites that are located in more than one country;

(b) Possible options for transboundary CCS project activities, and obligations arising therefrom, including the following:

²⁹ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.8.

³⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.8 and Add.1 and 2.

- (i) The assignment of liability, as defined in decision 10/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 1(j);
 - (ii) Options for sharing the obligation to address a net reversal of storage;
 - (iii) Environmental and socio-economic impacts and remedial measures to address them;
 - (iv) Monitoring requirements in the context of transboundary CCS project activities;
- (c) Possible resolution mechanisms for any disputes, including with regard to liability, that may arise between host Parties.

107. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications to prepare the technical paper referred to in paragraph 106 above, as provided by the secretariat.

108. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

B. Implications of the inclusion of reforestation of lands with forest in exhaustion as afforestation and reforestation clean development mechanism project activities

(Agenda item 11(b))

1. Proceedings

109. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 1st and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.10. A statement was made by a representative of one Party.

110. At its 1st meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in informal consultations, facilitated by Mr. Eduardo Sanhueza (Chile). At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Sanhueza reported on these consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions³¹ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

111. The SBSTA took note of a summary report, as contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.10.

112. The SBSTA agreed to continue consideration of this agenda item at its thirty-eighth session.

C. Land use, land-use change and forestry under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol and under the clean development mechanism

(Agenda item 11(c))

1. Proceedings

113. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 2nd and 3rd meetings.

114. At its 2nd meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in a contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Peter Iversen (Denmark) and Mr. Marcelo Rocha (Brazil). At the 3rd

³¹ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.10.

meeting, Mr. Rocha reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions³² proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

115. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the issues related to land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) as referred to in decision 2/CMP.7, paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 10, with the aim of reporting to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), at its eighth session, on the progress made.

116. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the issues related to modalities and procedures for alternative approaches to addressing the risk of non-permanence under the clean development mechanism (CDM), in accordance with decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 7, and invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 10 September 2012, their views on these issues for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

117. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the issues related to modalities and procedures for possible additional LULUCF activities under the CDM in accordance with decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 6, and invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 10 September 2012, their views on these issues for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

118. The SBSTA initiated its consideration of the issues related to a more comprehensive accounting of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks from LULUCF, including through a more inclusive activity-based approach or a land-based approach, as referred to in decision 2/CMP.7, paragraph 5, and invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 17 September 2012, their views on these issues, for compilation by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-seventh session.

D. Implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

(Agenda item 11(d))

1. Proceedings

119. The SBSTA considered this sub-item at its 2nd and 3rd meetings.

120. At its 2nd meeting, the SBSTA agreed to consider this sub-item in a contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Nagmeldin Elhassan (Sudan) and Ms. Anke Herold (Germany). At the 3rd meeting, Mr. Herold reported on the contact group's consultations. Also at its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions³³ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

121. Responding to the request from the CMP,³⁴ the SBSTA initiated work to assess and address the implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the

³² Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.3.

³³ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.16.

³⁴ Decision 1/CMP.7, paragraph 9.

previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol adopted by the CMP, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol.

122. The SBSTA acknowledged the importance of the technical work under this agenda sub-item for the implementation of the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. It noted that the initial assessment indicated that there is a considerable amount of work to be done on several decisions on methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol, which should be addressed.

123. To facilitate further progress on this agenda sub-item in 2012, the SBSTA:

(a) Requested the secretariat to prepare a technical paper that includes a comprehensive identification of the implications of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous CMP decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8, building on the presentations made by the secretariat to the SBSTA at its thirty-sixth session and discussions by Parties at that session, and to indicate the technical issues that are relevant to implement these decisions in the second commitment period. The technical paper should include options to address the relevant methodological decisions, with annotations explaining the rationale for these suggested options and the relationship of the suggested options to decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7. This would include identification of paragraphs in methodological decisions where further guidance from Parties is needed. Where applicable, the implications identified should be clustered into generic categories with the aim of ensuring a consistent approach across decisions. The secretariat may also address technical issues arising from the implementation of previous CMP decisions on methodological issues identified in the first commitment period. The technical paper will provide the basis for discussions by participants at the technical workshop mentioned in paragraph 123(d) below. It will also be made available for consideration by Parties at the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA. The technical paper should be available by 1 September 2012;

(b) Invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, by 21 September 2012, their views on the implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous CMP decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and on how these implications should be addressed;

(c) Requested the secretariat to make these submissions available on the UNFCCC website and to compile them into a miscellaneous document before the workshop referred to in paragraph 123(d) below;

(d) Further requested the secretariat to organize a technical workshop, to be held before the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA, with the aim of facilitating progress in the consideration of this agenda sub-item at that session to discuss the technical paper referred to in paragraph 123(a) above and to consider Parties' views referred to in paragraph 123(b) above. It requested the secretariat to prepare a report on the workshop before the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA.

124. The SBSTA agreed to continue, at its thirty-seventh session, consideration on this agenda sub-item, taking into account the technical paper referred to in paragraph 123(a) above, the submissions from Parties referred to in paragraph 123(b) above and the report from the workshop referred to in paragraph 123(d) above, with a view to preparing draft decisions for consideration and adoption by the CMP at its eighth session. It also agreed, if appropriate, to develop further elements of this agenda sub-item to be implemented in 2013, with a view to preparing further draft decisions for consideration and adoption by the CMP at its ninth session.

125. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the IPCC scoping meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 1–4 May 2012 in response to the invitation in decision 2/CMP.7 on the work of the IPCC to review and, if necessary, update supplementary methodologies for estimating anthropogenic GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from LULUCF activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, on the basis of, inter alia, chapter 4 of its *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-use Change and Forestry*.

126. The SBSTA considered the timeline in decision 2/CMP.7 for completion of the work of the IPCC referred to in paragraph 125 above and its subsequent consideration by the SBSTA with a view to forwarding a decision on the matter to the CMP at its tenth session. It noted with concern that this timeline would not allow for the methodological guidance to be adopted in time for the inventory submissions by 15 April 2015, the due date for the inventory submissions for the first year under the second commitment period. Therefore, the SBSTA invited the IPCC to consider the possibility of completing the work on the methodological guidance within a revised time frame, by October 2013, to allow for adoption of a decision on this matter by the CMP at its ninth session

127. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in paragraph 123(d) above be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.

XII. Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation of climate change

(Agenda item 12)

1. Proceedings

128. The SBSTA considered this item at its 2nd and 3rd meetings.

129. At its 2nd meeting, the SBSTA agreed that the Chair would prepare draft conclusions and present them to the SBSTA at its 3rd meeting. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions³⁵ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

130. The SBSTA agreed to continue its consideration of the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation at its thirty-eighth session, taking into account the best available scientific information on mitigation, in particular information from the IPCC, and the ongoing work of other bodies under the Convention on related matters.

XIII. Cooperation with other international organizations

(Agenda item 13)

1. Proceedings

131. The SBSTA considered this item at its 2nd and 3rd meetings. It had before it document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.3. Statements were made by representatives of the IPCC, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

³⁵ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.2.

132. At its 2nd meeting, the SBSTA agreed that the Chair would consult with Parties on this issue and present draft conclusions to the SBSTA at its 3rd meeting. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted conclusions³⁶ proposed by the Chair.

2. Conclusions

133. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the information paper³⁷ prepared by the secretariat on relevant activities in which the secretariat has been involved with other intergovernmental organizations and noted the information provided in it.

134. The SBSTA took note of the statements made by representatives of the IPCC and the secretariats of CBD and UNCCD on their activities and efforts to advance the implementation of actions to address climate change in their respective areas of expertise, responding to the needs of, and decisions taken by, Parties, and taking into account potential linkages and synergies.

135. The SBSTA reaffirmed the importance of the secretariat engaging with other intergovernmental organizations, in particular United Nations entities, and with other international organizations as appropriate, to focus on actions that support the effective implementation of the Convention.

136. The SBSTA recognized the resources and expertise that other intergovernmental and international organizations have and that are relevant to the UNFCCC process and encouraged the secretariat to seek support, where appropriate, from relevant international organizations and to work in partnership with these towards the effective implementation of the Convention.

XIV. Other matters

(Agenda item 14)

137. No other matters were raised.

XV. Report on the session

(Agenda item 15)

138. At its 3rd meeting, the SBSTA considered and adopted the draft report on its thirty-sixth session.³⁸ At the same meeting, on a proposal by the Chair, the SBSTA authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report on the session, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the Chair.

XVI. Closure of the session

139. At the 3rd meeting, the Executive Secretary provided a preliminary evaluation of the administrative and budgetary implications of conclusions adopted during the session. This follows decision 16/CP.9, paragraph 20, which requests the Executive Secretary to provide

³⁶ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.6.

³⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.3.

³⁸ Adopted as document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.1.

an indication of the administrative and budgetary implications of decisions³⁹ if these cannot be met from existing resources within the core budget.

140. The Executive Secretary informed Parties that a number of activities resulting from the negotiations at this session call for extra work by the secretariat and, therefore, the secretariat requires additional resources in the coming year over and above the core budget for 2012–2013. A preliminary estimated amount of an additional EUR 340,000 will need to be provided to cover the following activities:

(a) Under agenda item 7 (also under SBI, agenda item 11), “Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures”, the secretariat has been requested to arrange in-session workshops and an expert meeting. The cost of these activities is estimated at EUR 45,000;

(b) Under agenda item 10(a) “Work programme on a common reporting format for the ‘UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties’”, the secretariat has been requested to organize a workshop and prepare a synthesis report. The estimated cost amounts to EUR 130,000;

(c) Under agenda item 10(f) “Greenhouse gas data interface,” the secretariat has been requested to update the data interface. The estimated cost amounts to EUR 30,000;

(d) Under agenda item 11(d) “Implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol”, the secretariat has been requested to organize a technical workshop. The estimated cost amounts to EUR 135,000.

141. At the same meeting, closing statements were made by representatives of 11 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, one on behalf of the Umbrella Group, one on behalf of AOSIS, one on behalf of the African States, one on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group, one on behalf of the European Union and its member States and one on behalf of the LDCs.

142. Statements were also made on behalf of the business and industry NGOs, the youth NGOs and the indigenous peoples organizations.

143. Before closing the session, the Chair thanked delegates, the chairs of contact groups and the convenors of informal consultations for their contributions. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

³⁹ While decision 16/CP.9 refers to “decisions”, it also has implications for conclusions of the subsidiary bodies.

Annex I

[English only]

Elements for a possible draft decision on modalities for national forest monitoring systems and measuring, reporting and verifying

Recalling decisions 2/CP.13, 4/CP.15, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 12/CP.17,

[Modalities for national forest monitoring systems

1. *Decides* that the development of national forest monitoring systems for the monitoring and reporting of activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, [shall] [should] take into account the guidance provided in decision 4/CP.15 and be guided by the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidance and guidelines, as adopted or encouraged by the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate, as a basis for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes;
2. *Also decides* that robust national forest monitoring systems should provide data and information that are transparent, consistent over time, complete¹ [and have undergone quality assurance and quality control];
3. [*Affirms* robust and transparent national forest monitoring system contributes to strengthen forest governance including law enforcement and to further consider counter measures to deforestation and forest degradation, and to promote effective implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, further on, sustainable forest management including deploying multiple functions of forest;]
4. *Also decides* [, that in the context of the provision of adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support to developing country Parties, in accordance with national circumstances and respective capabilities,] national forest monitoring systems[, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71 [(b) and] (c), and in decision 4/CP.15, paragraph 1(d)] should:
 - (a) Build upon existing systems, as appropriate;
 - (b) Provide information on all forest [areas] [land] in the country;
 - (c) Enable the [assessment][identification] of changes incurred in natural forests;
 - (d) Be flexible and allow for improvement;
 - (e) Reflect, as appropriate, the phased-approach as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 73 and 74;
 - (f) Identify potential sources of uncertainties to the extent possible;
5. [*Also acknowledges* that national forest monitoring systems may provide[, as appropriate,] relevant [data and] information for [national] systems for the provision of information on how safeguards are addressed and respected;]

¹ Complete here means the provision of data and information that allows the technical analysis of the results[, and the establishment of forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels].

6. [*Decides* that under the joint mitigation and adaptation approach for the integral and sustainable management of forests a comprehensive and holistic monitoring system shall be developed considering the multiple functions of forests in climate change;]]

[Modalities for measuring, reporting and verifying

[*Reaffirms* that in accordance with decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 73, results-based actions should be fully measured, reported and verified;]

[*Agrees* that the actions which preserve and enhance the multiple benefits of forests, are also those that contribute to the sustainability and permanence of emission reductions;]

1. *Decides* that measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks[, and, as necessary], forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 [and paragraph 71(b)], should be consistent with the [most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines and]methodological guidance provided in decision 4/CP.15, and any guidance on measuring, reporting and verification of nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties as agreed by the Conference of the Parties, [and in accordance with any future relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties];

2. [*Decides* that adequate and predictable support, including financial, technical and technological support will be provided to developing countries, consistent with decision 1/CP.16;]

3. *Decides* that developing country Parties aiming to undertake activities in accordance with decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 [, taking into account paragraph 71 (b)], should provide data and information on anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks[, and, as necessary,] forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes that are transparent, complete², consistent with the established forest reference emission level[s]/forest reference level[s] and over time, [and] accurate to the extent possible [and comparable];

4. [*Agrees* that [, subject to adequate and predictable financial support in all phases] a stepwise approach to [acquire more and/or] [measuring, reporting and verifying may be useful, enabling countries to incorporate] better data for the relevant pools and /or gases and to improve methodologies [may be useful], [and where appropriate, incorporate additional pools and gases,] as appropriate, recognizing that conservative³ [treatment of] estimates for some of these pools may be necessary to account for financial, technical, and/or technological constraints, while maintaining consistency with the established forest reference emission level[s]/forest reference level[s]; [noting the importance of adequate and predictable support as referenced by decision 1 /CP .16, paragraph 71;]];

5. *Further decides* that, consistent with Decisions 1/CP.16 and with Annex III to Decision 2/CP.17, the data and information referred to in paragraph 3 above should be provided through biennial update reports, taking into consideration additional flexibility given to least developed countries and small island developing countries;

6. [*Further decides* that, on a temporary basis before the international consultation and analysis process is fully operational, Parties providing information in accordance with paragraph 3 above may, on a voluntary basis, request that this information be technically assessed;]

² [footnote to be elaborated]

³ [placeholder for a footnote]

7. [Requests the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to respond to the requests made by Parties in relation to paragraph 6 above by mandating technical experts to undertake a technical assessment of the implementation of actions related to decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 [and taking into account paragraph 71(b)], and to prepare a report on this assessment;]
8. [Further decides that measuring, reporting and verification of the support provided by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention to Parties not included in Annex I for activities referred to in paragraph [xx above] should be carried out by a UNFCCC team of technical experts equitably balanced between members of developed and developing countries and supported by the secretariat in consultation with relevant national authorities in accordance with countries national circumstances, capacity and capabilities;]
9. [[Decides] [Encourages] that [developed country] Parties [,according to the principles of,] [to] the Convention should establish and support, technologically, technically and financially, programs for specific capacity development in developing country Parties implementing activities as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 [taking into account paragraph 71(b)], with the aim to:
- (a) Develop robust and transparent forest monitoring systems;
 - (b) [Fulfill the required forest [sector] reporting requirements within national communications and biennial update reports;]
 - (c) [Support the process of international consultation and analysis of [national communications and] biennial update reports;]
10. [[In addition,[in accordance with relevant articles of the Convention,] the] [Encourages] [developed country] Parties [,in a position to do so] [should] [to] [establish] [[and/or] facilitate] [a free] access [to] [resource for] the [most accurate] [necessary] existing and future satellite imaging data available globally, given that the accuracy of the national forest monitoring system may improve depending on the financial and technical support received in order to build the required national capacity to access and process available satellite information and data;]
11. [Also decides that the [reported] reduced emissions [from sustainable management of forests] [or increased removals [or stabilized forest carbon stocks]] [from results-based actions] in the activities referred to in decision 1/CP .16, paragraph 70 [taking into account paragraph 71(b), [will] [may] be [subject to] [an international] [and] [national] [verification process, carried out by an independent] [third party] [[team of experts] under the auspices of the UNFCCC], [international consultation and analysis process] in accordance with [further guidelines to be developed under the Convention;] [any guidance on measurement, reporting and verification of nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties as agreed by the Conference of the Parties]]]
12. [Agrees that, consistent with the forest reference emission level[s]/forest reference level[s], measurement should be done in terms of CO₂eq [and the other co-benefits, including local community, livelihood, poverty eradication, and biodiversity conservation] [to the same pools and gases, and activities listed in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, which have been used in the construction of forest reference emission level[s] or forest reference level[s]]]
13. [Invites the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to elaborate methods and provide good practice guidance on measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 [and taking into account paragraph 71(b)], to be

submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at a future session;]

14. [*Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to continue its consideration of modalities for [measuring,]reporting and [verification of results-based actions [which preserve and enhance the multiple benefits of forests including adaptation, poverty alleviation, biodiversity and secure livelihoods]] [verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of the activities] referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph [70] [73] [taking into account paragraph 71(b)], with the aim of completing its work on this matter at its [thirty-seventh] [thirty-ninth] session and reporting to the Conference of the Parties at its [eighteenth][nineteenth] session on progress made, including any recommendation for a draft decision on this matter;]

15. [*Also encourages* Parties to develop a system for measuring, reporting and verifying under the joint mitigation and adaptation approach for the integral and sustainable management of forests.]]

Annex II

[English only]

Draft text on research and systematic observation

1. [The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) noted with appreciation the statements delivered by representatives of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
2. The SBSTA welcomed the plan of the GCOS Steering Committee and secretariat to prepare, in broad consultation with relevant partners, by early 2015, a third report on the adequacy of the global observing systems for climate¹ and, by 2016, a new implementation plan for the global observing system for climate, which would, inter alia, support the Convention.² The SBSTA invited the GCOS secretariat to provide the final implementation plan to the SBSTA in 2016 by its [45th] session, and the third adequacy report to the SBSTA by 2015 at its [43rd] session. The SBSTA encouraged the GCOS to provide a draft of the implementation plan to the SBSTA by its [43rd] session in 2015.
3. [The SBSTA noted that the GCOS secretariat would consider, inter alia, [emerging observational needs for adaptation and for the provision of climate services, and] the findings of the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC, in the development of the third adequacy report.]
4. The SBSTA welcomed the activities undertaken by the GCOS secretariat to support efforts to address the needs for climate observations, including the preparation of an update of the Satellite Supplement³ to the 2010 updated GCOS implementation plan. The SBSTA invited the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) to respond to this new supplement when reporting to the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA on progress made.⁴
5. The SBSTA further welcomed the regional initiatives of the GCOS secretariat⁵ in supporting the development of and improvements to climate observation capacities. The SBSTA invited the GCOS secretariat to further expand such initiatives⁶ and encouraged Parties, in a position to do so, to support these efforts.

¹ A report on the adequacy of the climate observing systems was prepared in 1998, followed by a second such report in 2003, both of which are available at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/index.php?name=Publications>.

² For the summary of the GCOS *Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC*, prepared in 2004, see document FCCC/SBSTA/2004/MISC.16. For the summary of the 2010 update of the plan see document FCCC/SBSTA/2010/MISC.9.

³ Full title of the Satellite Supplement: *Systematic Observation Requirements for Satellite-based Products for Climate*. This report provides supplemental details to the satellite-based component of the 2010 update of the GCOS implementation plan. The full report is available at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/Publications/gcos-154.pdf>.

⁴ At its thirty-third session, the SBSTA invited CEOS to provide, by the thirty-seventh session of the SBSTA, an updated report on progress made on major achievements in relevant areas (FCCC/SBSTA/2010/13, para. 53).

⁵ Recent regional initiatives of the GCOS secretariat have focused on Africa and South America, as indicated by the GCOS secretariat in its submission to the SBSTA (see FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.4).

⁶ For example, to the Asia-Pacific region and the Caribbean.

6. The SBSTA noted that the report on progress by the Global Terrestrial Observing System (GTOS) secretariat was not submitted to the SBSTA by its thirty-sixth session,⁷ and encouraged the GTOS secretariat to submit that report to the SBSTA by its xxth session. The SBSTA highlighted the importance of such reports for the work of the SBSTA.
7. The SBSTA expressed its appreciation to the GCOS sponsors⁸ for the support provided to the GCOS programme for the past 20 years, and encouraged them to continue to provide such support. The SBSTA also welcomed the initiative by the GCOS sponsors to undertake a review of GCOS, and invited the GCOS sponsors, through WMO, to inform the SBSTA on the outcome of this review.
8. The SBSTA noted with appreciation the information by WMO on progress made towards implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), including on the draft GFCS Implementation Plan. The SBSTA invited WMO to keep the SBSTA informed on the developments of the GFCS.
9. The SBSTA noted the importance of systematic observation for vulnerability assessments and adaptation, with specific emphasis on developing countries. The SBSTA encouraged Parties to contribute to the identification of emerging needs for systematic observation in the context of the Convention, in support of the activities mentioned in paragraph 2 above.
10. [The SBSTA noted the potential of systematic observation for carbon monitoring, such as for monitoring carbon fluxes in ecosystems[, and invited GCOS to consider enhancing its activities in this regard.]]
11. [The SBSTA agreed to continue its consideration of systematic observation at its thirty-seventh session, and then revert to its customary practice of focusing on research during the first sessional period of a year and on systematic observation during the second sessional period of a year.]
12. [The SBSTA welcomed the continuation of the research dialogue held during the thirty-sixth session of the SBSTA. It also conveyed its appreciation to the regional and international programs and organizations [footnote on participants] engaged in climate change research, the IPCC and scientific experts for their active participations and contribution to the research dialogue. The SBSTA also expressed its appreciation to Parties for sharing their views on their research needs and priorities.]
13. [SBSTA agreed to focus the next Research Dialogue at SBSTA 38. The SBSTA invited Parties to provide, by 31 January 2013, their views on the research dialogue, including on-going activities, associated modalities and ways to enhance the dialogue. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to compile these submissions to a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its 38th session.]
14. [SBSTA agreed to focus the next research dialogue at SBSTA 38th session on socio-economic and scientific aspects of climate change. SBSTA invited Parties to submit their views on this theme by [date] with the view to organize a workshop before SBSTA 38 to allow in-depth consideration of this theme.]]

⁷ At its thirty-third session, the SBSTA invited the secretariat of the GTOS to report to the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session on progress made on a number of matters relating to climate-related terrestrial observations (see FCCC/SBSTA/2010/13, paras. 47–50). At the thirty-fifth session of the SBSTA, the GTOS secretariat provided a summary of progress (FCCC/SBSTA/2011/MISC. 14), indicating that the report invited by the SBSTA at its thirty-third session would be submitted to the SBSTA at its thirty-sixth session.

⁸ The sponsors of GCOS are the following: 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.

Annex III

Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures

		2012		2013	
		Before/during SBs ^a 37	Deliverables	Before/during SBs ^a 38	Deliverables
Area	Actions	Deliverables	Actions	Deliverables	Actions
Sharing of information and expertise, including reporting and promoting understanding of positive and negative impacts of response measures (area (a) ^b)	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^d	Miscellaneous document			
	In-forum workshop ^c	Report of the in-forum workshop			
Relevant aspects relating to the implementation of decisions 1/CP.10, 1/CP.13 and 1/CP.16 and Article 2, paragraph 3, and Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol (area (f) ^b)	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^d	Miscellaneous document			
	Discussion by Parties	Chairs' summary of discussion			
Building collective and individual learning towards a transition to a low greenhouse gas emitting society (area (h) ^b)	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^d	Miscellaneous document			
	In-forum workshop ^c	Report of the in-forum workshop			
Assessment and analysis of impacts (area (c) ^b)			Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^e	Miscellaneous document	

2012		2013	
Before/during SBs ^a 37		Before/during SBs ^a 38	
Area	Actions	Deliverables	Deliverables
			Before/during SBs ^a 39
			Actions
			Deliverables
			Deliverables
Exchanging experience and discussion of opportunities for economic diversification and transformation (area (d) ^b)	In-forum workshop ^c	Report of the in-forum workshop	
	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^e	Miscellaneous document	
	In-forum workshop ^c	Report of the in-forum workshop	
Economic modelling and socio-economic trends (area (e) ^b)	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^e	Miscellaneous document	
	In-forum expert meeting	Expert meeting report	
Just transition of the workforce, and the creation of decent work and quality jobs (area (g) ^b)	Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^e	Miscellaneous document	
	In-forum workshop ^c	Report of the in-forum workshop	
Cooperation on response strategies (area (b) ^b)			Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations ^e
			Miscellaneous document
			In-forum workshop ^c
			Report of the in-forum workshop

Annex IV

Documents before the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its thirty-sixth session

Documents prepared for the session

FCCC/SBSTA/2012/1	Provisional agenda and annotations. Note by the Executive Secretary
FCCC/SB/2012/1	Report on the linkage modalities and the rolling workplan of the Technology Executive Committee for 2012–2013. Note by the Chair of the Technology Executive Committee
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.1	Progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.2	Report on the workshop on common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of greenhouse gases. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/INF.3	Summary of cooperative activities with United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations to contribute to the work under the Convention. Note by the secretariat
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.1 and Add.1	Views on issues identified in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.2 and Add.1 and 2	Views on specific themes to be addressed at the research dialogue, including information on technical and scientific aspects of emissions and removals of all greenhouse gases from coastal and marine ecosystems. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.3	Update on developments in research activities relevant to the needs of the Convention, including on the long-term global goal; and information on technical and scientific aspects of emissions and removals of all greenhouse gases from coastal and marine ecosystems. Submissions from regional and international climate change research programmes and organizations
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.4	Matters emerging from the 2010 updated Global Climate Observing System implementation plan and related activities. Submission from the secretariat of the Global Climate Observing System
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.6 and Add.1–3	Views on issues relating to agriculture. Submissions from Parties
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.7	Information relevant to emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport. Submissions from international organizations

FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.8 and Add.1 and 2	Views on the eligibility of carbon dioxide capture and storage project activities involving transport of carbon dioxide from one country to another or which involve geological storage sites that are located in more than one country; and on the establishment of a global reserve of certified emission reduction units for carbon dioxide capture and storage project activities. Submissions from Parties and admitted observer organizations
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.1	Draft report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its thirty-sixth session
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.2	Scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of mitigation of climate change. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.3	Land use, land-use change and forestry under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol and under the clean development mechanism. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.4	Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.5	Common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of greenhouse gases. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.6	Cooperation with other international organizations. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.7	Greenhouse gas data interface. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.8	Carbon dioxide capture and storage in geological formations as clean development mechanism project activities. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.9/Rev. 1	Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries. Revised draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.10	Implications of the inclusion of reforestation of lands with forest in exhaustion as afforestation and reforestation clean development mechanism project activities. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.11	Work programme on a common reporting format for the “UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties”. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.12	Development and transfer of technologies and report of the Technology Executive Committee. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.13	Work programme on the revision of the guidelines for the review of biennial reports and national communications, including national inventory reviews for developed country Parties. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.14	Emissions from fuel used for international aviation and maritime transport. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.15	General guidelines for domestic measurement, reporting and verification of domestically supported nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.16	Implications of the implementation of decisions 2/CMP.7 to 5/CMP.7 on the previous decisions on methodological issues related to the Kyoto Protocol, including those relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.17	Research and systematic observation. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.18– FCCC/SBI/2012/L.25	Forum and work programme on the impact of the implementation of response measures. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chairs
FCCC/SBSTA/2012/L.19	Issues relating to agriculture. Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

Other documents before the session

FCCC/SBSTA/2011/5	Report of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on its thirty-fifth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 3 December 2011
FCCC/CP/2011/9 and Add.1 and 2	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011
FCCC/KP/CMP/2011/10 and Add.1 and 2	Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its seventh session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011
FCCC/CP/2010/7 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010
FCCC/KP/CMP/2009/16	Annual report of the Executive Board of the clean development mechanism to the Conference of the Parties

