

There is a great need for country-level data for an adequate analysis of several of the aspects mentioned above, and the same applies to the analysis of the implications of different definitions under Art. 3.3. The EU has pointed to this issue in its submissions. This need was also expressed by some IPCC lead authors at the workshop in Indianapolis. The Secretariat's document contains the task for the Parties to submit technical and scientific information. The EU suggests that countries should also be asked to submit relevant country-level data before a workshop to be convened prior to COP6. Although the IPCC Special Report will officially not be released until May 2000, there will already be some information available about possible additional activities several months earlier, and national data could be produced starting from early 2000 onwards.

There is also a clear need for rules governing the use of activities as well as a need for inventory and reporting guidelines. Some items listed in the secretariat's document related, for example, to inventory and reporting, should be considered also before COP6. The IPCC should be requested to prepare inventory guidelines after the activities and the rules governing their use have been decided on.

The EU generally supports the framework for decision-making as set out in figure 1 of FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5. However, it should be made clear that, according to decision 9/CP.4, the COP can only forward draft decisions for adoption at COP/MOP1 and that COP6 can only do this after the consideration of the IPCC Special Report in the SBSTA. The EU recalls its suggestion of a technical SBSTA workshop before COP6 which might facilitate decisions at COP6. In addition, the EU believes that Parties should be requested to submit preliminary data required by the first sentence of Article 3.4 before SBSTA12. Close cooperation with other environmental conventions and organisations which work on land-use change and forestry issues is also essential.

Check against delivery