

V. ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONVENTION: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

(Agenda item 5)

1. Proceedings

34. The SBSTA considered this item at its 7th, 9th and 12th meetings, on 5, 10 and 12 June, respectively.

35. Statements were made by representatives of 16 Parties, including one speaking on behalf of the African Group, another speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States and another speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

36. An informal workshop on this item, organized by the secretariat in collaboration with UNEP, was held on 9 June. The informal workshop was chaired by the Chairman of the SBSTA, who made an oral report on its conclusions to the SBSTA at its 9th meeting, on 10 June. Also at the 9th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of UNEP.

2. Conclusions

37. At its 12th meeting, on 12 June, having considered a proposal by the Chairman, the SBSTA adopted the following conclusions:

(a) The SBSTA welcomed the placement of Article 6 on the agenda of the SBSTA for the first time. The SBSTA noted that education, training and public awareness were priorities for many Parties and that international cooperation could play an important role in these areas. It further considered that national efforts to achieve the aims of Article 6 should be supported;

(b) The SBSTA took note of the results of a workshop on this issue held on 9 June that had been jointly organized by the secretariat and UNEP and chaired by the Chairman of the SBSTA. In particular, the SBSTA noted the efforts to assess public awareness needs in developing countries, as presented at the workshop. The SBSTA expressed satisfaction with this initiative and called for similar events in the future;

(c) The SBSTA also took note with interest of the statement by the representative of UNEP who outlined the activities of that organization in raising awareness of climate change issues, many of which are conducted in cooperation with the secretariat. The SBSTA indicated its interest in activities by United Nations organizations and bodies, especially UNEP, for supporting international cooperation and national outreach activities, and requested further information to be provided at its next session. The SBSTA also noted and welcomed the information outreach activities of the secretariat, and encouraged it to continue with this work;