

issue of climate change more centrally within the evolving socio-economic context. It will identify the scientific and policy linkages among the key global environmental issues (e.g., climate change, loss of biological diversity, forest loss, land and water degradation, etc.), the linkages between climate change and local and regional environmental issues (e.g., urban air pollution and regional acid deposition); and the linkages between global environmental issues and the challenge of meeting key human needs, e.g., adequate food, clean water, energy services, etc. The latest WMO/UNEP/NASA/NOAA international scientific assessment of stratospheric ozone depletion -- mandated by the Montreal Protocol -- which is being completed this week at a meeting in Switzerland, has specifically addressed the links between stratospheric ozone depletion and climate change, i.e., (i) how changes in climate induced by changes in greenhouse gases and aerosols affects stratospheric ozone depletion; and (ii) how changes in stratospheric ozone affects the Earth's climate.

The TAR will include a Synthesis Report written in a non-technical style suitable for policymakers and will address a broad range of key policy-relevant scientific questions. The structure of the Synthesis Document will be developed based on the input we have already received from governments through SBSTA and SBI. The final structure of the TAR and its Synthesis Report will be approved at the IPCC Plenary in late September/early October.

The Kyoto Protocol: Implications for the IPCC

The text of the Kyoto Protocol raises a number of interesting scientific and technical issues that will need to be resolved by governments prior to it becoming operational. I would like to highlight just a few of the issues which the IPCC would be willing to address, guided by the advice of the Subsidiary Bodies to the FCCC.

Carbon Sinks

First, I would like to note the excellent paper prepared by the Convention Secretariat that summarized both technical and policy issues associated with forestry and land-use changes.

Articles 3 (3.3 and 3.4), 6 and 12 raise a number of critical issues:

- * Definitions (forests, afforestation, deforestation and reforestation)
- * Which carbon pools (above ground biomass, below ground biomass, soil carbon, forest products, ?) should be considered when evaluating the implications for net carbon emissions associated with afforestation, reforestation and deforestation activities;
- * What is the accuracy of measurements (stocks and flows) for each type of carbon pool in the full range of forested ecosystems;
- * How well can carbon be measured in non-forested systems, e.g., soil carbon in agricultural systems;
- * Are there problems which arise in the use of current IPCC methodologies and what further developments are needed;