

STATEMENT BY GERMANY
ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES



Bonn, 31 May - 11 June 1999

SBSTA 10 - Agenda item 5

METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES:

(a) Land-use, land-use change and forestry

Germany, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, expresses its satisfaction concerning the progress which has been made in the work on land-use change and forestry.

The EU thanks the Secretariat for organising, and the government of the USA for hosting, the recent SBSTA workshop in Indianapolis. The EU also thanks the Secretariat for the workshop report in document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/INF.5. The mandate of this second workshop was to concentrate on methodological issues and data needs concerning additional Art. 3.4 activities. Specific proposals were presented and methodological issues were discussed on some additional activities or approaches. The process of deciding on additional activities was also discussed. This workshop as well as the first workshop in Rome have demonstrated the usefulness of direct science-policy dialogue. Being aware of the concerns of policy makers will help the writing teams of the IPCC Special Report on Land-use, Land-use Change and Forestry to focus the work on the most relevant issues.

The EU thanks the secretariat for document FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5 on policy and procedural issues. This document and the related submissions by Parties (FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.2 and FCCC/SBSTA/1999/MISC.2/Add.1) are a good basis to consider decision-making under Art. 3.4. The secretariat's document lists five categories for grouping the key policy and procedural issues, namely: clarification of definitions, eligibility of additional activities, the rules governing the use of activities, inventory and reporting guidelines and other issues. The EU considers this list relevant and helpful. The EU emphasizes that it will only be possible to identify all policy issues associated with Art. 3.3 and 3.4 after the completion of the IPCC Special Report and its consideration by the SBSTA. In the following the EU would like to present some related considerations: