

by September 1, 1998 for compilation into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBI at its ninth session.

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM NON-ANNEX I PARTIES OF THE CONVENTION: Considerable engagement of developing countries was made as these countries articulated their experiences and needs for national reporting. Canada intervened to support a decision by CoP 4 on the establishment of a review process for non-Annex I communications. To assist in that regard, Canada welcomed an initiative by the United States and Malaysia to co-host an informal workshop in August in Kuala Lumpur to increase awareness of the guidelines for preparing national communications, methodologies and the review process itself. A conclusion was not reached by the contact group on this issue and further discussion was deferred to the next SBI session.

METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

EMISSIONS INVENTORIES: Parties approved a conclusion that they provide to the secretariat, by August 15, 1998, their complete 1996 GHG Inventories and recommendations on possible approaches to resolving methodological issues related to those inventories, with the latter augmented by a workshop, the results from which would be submitted to SBSTA's tenth session in 1999. It was further agreed that a high priority should be attached to resolving methodological uncertainties arising from the Kyoto Protocol's inclusion of perfluorocarbons, sulphur hexafluoride, and hydrofluorocarbons.

ROSTER OF EXPERTS: Parties approved a conclusion that they provide to the secretariat, by July 1, 1998, their nominations for methodological experts to the roster, and that the roster should be reviewed at regular intervals, at least every five years.

STATUS OF TURKEY UNDER THE CONVENTION: Meeting considered Turkey's request to be removed from the Convention's list of Annex I countries. Question has become more complicated in the absence of Kyoto provisions covering voluntary commitments on the part of non-Annex I countries. Canada expressed its willingness to consider supporting Turkey's removal from Annex I providing that, at the same time, Turkey were prepared to make some sort of voluntary commitment in the spirit of the Protocol. Australia and EU interventions followed similar lines. Turkish reps seemed generally satisfied with this direction and Turkey is focussing its own domestic efforts on elaborating a national communication with projections to assist further engagement. The issue remains unresolved with Venezuelan coordinator undertaking to continue consultations at Buenos Aires towards consensus on a draft decision for COP4.

DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGIES: Long negotiations took place within a contact group on this topic, taking the form of a divided North-