

scientific presentations are planned for the next session of the SBSTA and the COP-3. IPCC chair also made presentations on the IPCC 3rd Assessment. They noted that it will focus on new science since the 2nd Assessment, that it will be policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive, and will be finished by 2000/2001. The Synthesis Report will tackle a small number of key policy questions and Parties were invited to submit suggestions to the FCCC Secretariat by mid-January for inclusion in a document that can be considered at the first meeting of the SBSTA after COP-3. This should be completed before the expanded IPCC Plenary that is planned for March 1998. Watson made a plea, particularly to UNEP, for more support for impacts work. He also noted that he will be seeking help from some countries in translating parts of the full reports that will be prepared for the 3rd Assessment. In the general discussion several delegations referred to the Climate Agenda and of the need for continued research and systematic observations.

17. In the IPCC/FCCC Joint Working Group, the IPCC mentioned that it would welcome the SBSTA's advice and general guidance on the key policy issues that should be tackled in the 3rd Assessment. It is expected that there will be a discussion on this at the IPCC Plenary in mid-September to which all countries are invited. The IPCC chair (Bob Watson) spent some time talking about the Synthesis Report. It would not be a simple condensation of the full reports but would be devoted to a limited number of key policy issues. The work plan for the 3rd Assessment will be approved at an expanded IPCC Plenary next March after a series of expert meetings at the beginning of the year. Ongoing IPCC chair, Bert Bolin expressed his dissatisfaction with the Technical Papers that have recently been produced - he finds them too long and detailed. The Chairman of SBSTA suggested that the IPCC should have more profile within SBSTA. In this context he thought there could be improvements in the way the IPCC communicates with the SBSTA. Bob Watson responded positively to this suggestion but recognized the extra work that might be involved.

18. Other side meetings: World Bank made two presentations. Bob Watson presented Bank's work on its Energy and Environment Strategy. There are three elements for the draft WB strategy: 1) accelerate technological progress and transfer through promoting R&D, add renewable energy dimension to projects, modify WB's least-cost policy to stimulate low GHG-emission projects, broaden support for renewable energy/energy efficiency (RE/EE) projects and promote markets for RE/EE; 2) identify climate-friendly options in the WB's portfolio through incorporating a shadow value of carbon (\$20/ton) into evaluations and integrate climate change considerations into the Country Assistance Strategy; 3) mobilize new resources through pressing for full and timely replenishment of the GEF, explore partnership with GEF on renewable energies, promote GEF dialogue with the private sector, explore green pricing and assist in forming a carbon offsets market. The World Bank also presented the Global Carbon Initiative. Although the WB provides only a very small portion