

**THIRD SESSION OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
ADVICE**

AGENDA ITEM 5: ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED JOINTLY UNDER THE PILOT PHASE

STATEMENT BY AUSTRALIA

The Australian Government is actively considering developing an AIJ initiative in partnership with the private sector. The initiative would be focused on the Asia-Pacific region. Australia already has a pilot AIJ program in the South Pacific which pre-dates COP1. The proposed new AIJ initiative would be on a much larger scale.

Australia places considerable importance on developing a successful approach to AIJ, and fully recognises that this will depend, to a large extent, on making provision for comparable, comprehensive and transparent reporting on AIJ activity. In line with this thinking, Australia, along with many other countries, welcomed at SBSTA2 both the initiative to adopt an initial reporting framework for AIJ during the pilot phase, and the decision to report to COP2 on possible approaches to improve that framework and address certain methodological issues.

Australia has considered the report of the Secretariat on this matter (FCCC/CP/1996/14 and Add.1), and agrees with the basic conclusion that the analysis and comparison of AIJ projects and programs across countries would be greatly enhanced - and simplified - by adopting a uniform reporting format within the agreed reporting framework. One caveat is that reporting requirements should not be unnecessarily onerous, especially as far as developing countries are concerned. Further, we agree with developing a work plan to address formatting and other issues, specifically the need to:

- settle methodological issues such as approaches to estimating the effectiveness of emission reductions and sequestration projects, approaches to determining baselines, assessing emissions and financial additionality, and determining the cost effectiveness of projects; and
- develop approaches to facilitate AIJ project and program information sharing (for example through an AIJ forum).