

Annex 1 Communications

Methodological Issues

Ireland, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, welcomes the Secretariat papers (FCCC/SBSTA/1996/9/Add.1 & Add.2) concerning methodological issues. The EU agrees with the basic assumption underpinning these documents as described in paragraph 6 of FCCC/SBSTA/1996/Add.1. However, the EU wishes to stress that the allocation issues raised in these documents cannot be isolated from the development of related policies and measures to control emissions of greenhouse gases.

In relation to the possible options for action by the SBSTA at this session, the EU believes that the most practical approach, given the technical nature of the subject matter and the limited time for consideration, will be to request Parties to submit comments on this subject and in response to FCCC/SBSTA/1996/9/Add.1 and Add.2. This process would facilitate a more substantive discussion on the methodological issues at a future session of the SBSTA. The EU also suggests that SBSTA 4 should consider the output of the IPCC work on guidelines for national inventories which are scheduled for adoption at IPCC XII with a view to using these revised guidelines in the second round of Annex I national communications.

For the near term, the EU stresses the importance of policies and measures to control international bunker fuel emissions. Therefore, the EU recommends that SBSTA should advise the COP to request the AGBM, as part of its efforts to define a protocol or another legal instrument, to elaborate on policies and measures to control international bunker fuel emissions and to request the ICAO and the IMO to assist in the development and implementation of such policies and measures.

In response to para 57 of FCCC/SBSTA/1996/9 Add.1 and in consideration of 30 bis of the Annex to FCCC/SBSTA/1996/9 with which the EU strongly agrees, the EU recommends that the SBSTA should include the development of common methodologies related to the calculation of national data on an adjusted basis in its future work programme.