

9. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the SBSTA of the informal consultations with the representatives of regional groups during the sixth session of the AD HOC Group on the Berlin Mandate (AGBM) and of the agreement reached on the election of officers other than the Chairman. Subsequently, the SBSTA elected Mr. S. Sok Appadu (Mauritius) and Mr. Alvaro J. Rodriguez (Colombia) as Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur respectively.

C. Organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 2 (c))

10. At its 1st meeting, on 28 July, the SBSTA considered the sub-item on the organization of the work of the session.

11. The Chairman recalled that services for formal meetings with interpretation would be available in the morning, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and in the afternoon, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 28 and 30 July, and in the afternoon only on 5 August 1997.

12. The Chairman reminded the SBSTA that the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (COP) had decided previously to continue its policy of allowing representatives of non-governmental organizations access to the conference room floor before and after the meetings, but not during the meetings.

13. The Chairman informed the SBSTA that it was his intention, as during the previous session of the SBSTA, to invoke the flexibility accorded by the Bureau of the COP to the Chairman of each subsidiary body to grant representatives of non-governmental organizations, access to the floor, as observers.

14. The Chairman also informed the SBSTA that the applications of two intergovernmental and 10 non-governmental organizations had been screened by the secretariat on the basis of the provisions of Article 7.6 of the Convention and in accordance with the procedures established by the COP for the admission of organizations as observers. The SBSTA agreed to grant access to these organizations for the current session of the SBSTA, pending formal action on their accreditation by the COP at its third session. These organizations are indicated in the lists of attendance.

15. In view of this meeting of the SBSTA/Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Joint Working Group planned for 29 July 1997, and on a proposal by the Chairman, it was agreed to consider item 5 of the agenda on co-operation with relevant international organizations on Wednesday, 30 July 1997. It was further agreed that agenda item 8 on activities implemented jointly be considered on Monday, 28 July 1997.