



4th June 2003
Co-chair, TFB

Statement on IPCC programme on the Revision of the IPCC Inventory Guidelines

Mr Chairman, thank you for this opportunity to inform the SBSTA on the planned work by the IPCC National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Programme (NGGIP) for the Revision of the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

This work will be a major activity of the IPCC inventories work programme over the next few years. The revisions to the Guidelines are being undertaken in response to a long-standing request from SBSTA and its formal invitation to IPCC during SBSTA17 in New Delhi in 2002 (Conclusions on the Methodological Issues, Review of Methodological Work under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol - document FCCC/SBSTA/2002/13.para 14 (f)). It is my pleasure to inform you that the IPCC Panel agrees with the need to carry out this work and endorsed the path forward.

In line with the Work Plan of NGGIP as approved in earlier sessions of the IPCC Panel, the IPCC Task Force Bureau for Inventories (TFB) convened an extended TFB meeting in late November 2002 to outline a process to accomplish this work. Six external experts, in addition to members of the TFB and the Technical Support Unit (TSU) were invited to make presentations to facilitate TFB's considerations on the future course of action towards the revision of the IPCC Inventory Guidelines.

From the discussion at the extended session, the TFB laid out a 4-step approach to complete the revision, consisting of a Preparatory phase (Step 1), followed by the planning for a Scoping Meeting (Step 2), the Scoping Meeting itself (Step 3) and, finally, the substantive work phase on the Revised Guidelines planned to take place from early 2004 to early 2006 (Step 4).

The TFB during its extended meeting considered the materials on which this work will be based. These will include, amongst others, the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, the 2000 IPCC Good Practice Guidance Report, the IPCC Emission Factor Database, and the 2003 GPG on LULUCF, when this is completed. Consideration of the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines and the 2000 Good Practice Guidance, and the two reports from on-going LULUCF programme will be the first step. The TFB also felt that information obtained through UNFCCC processes in reviewing and assessing inventories would be relevant to the revision process. The views on methodological issues from the Parties' submission to SBSTA request contained in document FCCC//SBSTA/2003/Misc.3 and as summarized in the annex of document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.1, will be taken into account. The work by the SBSTA and SBI, the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, and the technical review of Greenhouse Gas inventories of Annex I Parties will also be important materials.

The TFB identified other important issues during the extended meeting, which including coverage and methodologies, how to improve the usability of the IPCC Guidelines, and how to broaden participation of developing countries and industry. The Bureau discussed the need to cover additional gases, sectors, sources and sinks, where new information would improve the current guidelines, and improving linkages to other processes. Additional areas included addressing regional needs, in particular regional emission factors, as well as the need to improve methodologies to reflect experiences with inventory

compilation and technical developments, for example following completion of the IPCC special report on Carbon Capture and Storage.

The IPCC Panel, at its 20th Session held in Paris early this year approved the proposal of the TFB to organize a scoping meeting to prepare the draft Terms of Reference for the Revision, a Table of Contents of the Revised Guidelines, and a Workplan. The scoping meeting is scheduled for mid-September 2003. The outcome of the scoping meeting will be presented to the IPCC Panel at its 21st Session early November this year for its endorsement, aiming for the completion of the work by early 2006.

The IPCC called for participant nominations from governments and international organisations in May 2003, and the selection process is already taking place, noting the need to ensure a balanced participation of sectoral expertise and geographical distribution.